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AND China Overland Trade Report.

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BIRTHS.

On 10th September, at 19, Park Lane, the wife of A. V. BROWN, of a son.
On 18th September, at Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. IVOR THOMAS, a son.

DEATH.

On 2th September, at "Calder," MacDonnell Road, LAURENCE WILLIAM MOWBRAY, the dearly beloved son of Mr. and Mrs. J. MOWBRAY JONES. Aged 2 years.

Hongkong Weekly Press.

HONGKONG OFFICE: 10A, DES VŒUX ROAD CL.
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ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The French Mail of August 18th arrived, per the s.s. *Caledonien*, on the 21st inst.; and the English Mail of August 25th arrived, per the s.s. *Chusan*, on the 21st instant.

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

One dog-shooter in Penang is said to have accounted for "an average of four Chinamen to every dog."

The Soy Lun Silk Filature at Shanghai was sold by Messrs. L. Moore & Co. on September 9th for Tls. 175,000.

The deposits in the Japanese Post Office Savings Banks have increased Yen 10,000,000 in the last seven months.

Owing to bad weather the Japanese autumn silk crop is expected to fall short of that of an average year by 20 per cent.

The rate of interest on advances in Osaka (at the beginning of this month) had risen to nearly ten per cent per annum.

A certain Censor, in view of the order for the discontinuance of literary examinations, has memorialised the Throne, recommending that the sale of official titles be abolished.

Russia is said to have discovered that the Russian fishing companies on Saghalien, whose rights the Russian Government has been championing for years against the Japanese, all belong to an Englishman.

There appears to be more behind the following plaint of a Manila journal:—"Eyes have they, but they see not, noses have they, but they smell not," might be said with good reason of some of the health inspectors of Manila.

The Plague Commission which has presented proposals for sanitary improvements at Calcutta ascertained that in one ward of the city the population amounted to 145,000 per square mile as against 36,000 in the city of London.

A native was charged with causing an annoyance in Kowloon on the 16th inst. by pushing a wheelbarrow that creaked very loudly. The case was proved by Lukong W. Way, and a penalty of \$3 or seven days imprisonment imposed.

Last week was entirely free from plague; but during the 48 hours ending at noon on Sept. 18th, a fatal case was reported at Hollywood Road. Totals now read, 291 cases, 273 deaths. Of other communicable diseases, there was one case only, purpural fever.

H. E. Wu Chung-hsi, the Director General of the Imperial Chinese Telegraph Administration, has wired to the Viceroy at Nanking that a telegraph line will be established from Shanghai to Soochow and to Nanking along the Shanghai Nanking railway and the work will commence from the end of this month, and due protection from the local officials along the line is asked for.—*S'wanpao*.

At a meeting of the Chinese Commercial Union on Tuesday, the question of Mr. Fung Wa Chun's resignation as chairman was discussed. As that gentleman positively declined re-election, his resignation was accepted, and a vote of thanks is to be conveyed to him for the energy and ability he has displayed during the five years he has been chairman of the Union. Mr. Ip Oi Shan, who was recommended as his successor by a large number of firms, was elected, and Mr. Chan Kiang Yu was elected vice-chairman.

It has become proverbial in the colony that when a Chinese constable is dismissed the reason he advances for his disgrace is that he was asleep on duty. The complainant in a case before Mr. Hazeland yesterday, on being cross examined as to his connection with the police force tendered the same excuse and explained that he "sleeper walkee." This provoked the Court to smiles and an officer in a reminiscent mood was heard to relate that some years ago an Indian policeman went to sleep while patrolling his beat and walked into the harbour and was drowned.

In March last the pearling vessel *Nikko*, ketch-rigged, with complete diving apparatus (Hoincke pump) is alleged to have been stolen from British New Guinea by the Japanese crew on board, and, it is reported, was headed for the Dutch East Indies, the Philippines, Straits Settlements, or Japan. Commanders of steamers seeing or hearing of this vessel will confer a favour by communicating with Messrs. Bowden Brothers & Co., Limited, either at Kobe or Thursday Island.

The *Nagasaki Press* of the 10th inst. reports the loss of another steamer from striking a drifting mine. It says:—The Japanese steamer *Sanchin Maru*, owned by Mr. T. Hashimoto of Nagasaki, while on a trip from Newchwang to Dalny, came into contact with a floating mine off Port Arthur on Tuesday morning and sank immediately. The first engineer and steward are missing, but the remainder of the crew were rescued by the *Kwannon Maru* which happened to be passing at the time.

The fining of a Chinese shopkeeper the other day, \$25 for being in possession of a number of empty bottles, appears severe unless it be remembered that the Chinese have a habit of filling up bottles labelled with well-known firms' names with concoctions of their own. It is obvious that this practice should be discouraged as much as possible. Mr. Francis Danenberg, aerated water manufacturer, of High Street, is not the only one who has suffered in this way. Foreigners purchasing mineral waters should carefully examine any bought from Chinese.

The *Nanfongpao* (*South China Daily Journal*), publishes a telegram of date Sept. 12th to the effect that Viceroy Chang Chih-tung has concluded a loan of three million taels with the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation to meet the payment of the first instalment for the repurchase of the Canton-Hankow railway, the loan agreement having been signed on the 7th instant. Apropos, sentiment amongst the Chinese who are concerned in the repurchase of the line being strongly against placing the railway so that foreigners shall again be in a position to have a lien on it, Viceroy Chang Chih-tung, in borrowing money from the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, did not venture to offer the railway as security for the loan, but it is understood, gave, instead, a portion of the salt revenues of the Hukuang province.

A serious outbreak of fire threatening at one time to destroy what is perhaps the finest residential building in Singapore, occurred on Sept. 10th when new Tyersall, the local residence of his Highness the Sultan of Johore, was observed to burst into flames. The palace is hidden away in extensive grounds stretching from the lake in the Botanical gardens over a very large area. The only buildings of importance near at hand are the barracks of the Sherwood Foresters, Woodneuk, lying between the barracks and Tyersall, and Athara and Cluny Lodge on the other side. All these places are however some distance away. Tyersall is now and has been for some time unoccupied and has been left in charge of the usual Malay Officials with four or five watchmen and guards. The *Singapore Free Press* gives a long account of the fire, which the Sherwood Foresters helped to put out. The ballroom wing was gutted. The total loss was officially estimated at between \$40,000 and \$50,000.

A FOOCHOW SUGGESTION.

(Daily Press, 18th September.)

Some interesting but knotty points are raised by the *Foochow Echo* in discussing the refusal of the Hongkong Government to permit boycott meetings to be held in the Colony. In its issue of the 9th instant our contemporary says that the Government "very properly declined to grant the necessary authority"; and, quoting the official correspondence with the Chinese Commercial Union, continues: "The position taken up by the Hongkong Government is an eminently reasonable one. The matter is regarded not as one to be controlled by the sentimental considerations which weigh with the Chinese—and these are the mainstay of the whole boycott propaganda—but in connection with its effect on the practical interests of the Colony." From which it appears that our Foochow contemporary shares our view that the feeling behind the agitation was a forced one; a cultivated passion, fed on sensational statements, some gross exaggerations, others downright lies; and the approval of the Government's policy in the matter indicates also the opinion that without that effectual check, danger was ahead. "But" (and here the knotty points make their appearance) "the most interesting point is one which is barely hinted in the COLONIAL SECRETARY'S despatch. Hongkong," says our contemporary, "is a British Colony, and the vast majority of Chinese resident there are British subjects. For British subjects the interest of the boycott is speculative merely; they have no such concern in it as to give them a right to take an active part in the agitation. It is true that this is not recognized by the Hongkong Chinese. Race feeling is very strong among them, and they feel that the 'black-haired people,' even though they may be subjects of the same king as the 'red-haired barbarians,' have nothing else in common with them. This forms one of the main reasons why it is desirable that the Chinese who, by residence in Hongkong or the Straits Settlements, become British subjects, should be required in some way to differentiate themselves from Chinese who remain subjects of the Son of Heaven. That British nationality is regarded as an advantage by the Chinese is sufficiently demonstrated by the notorious fact that many Chinese, having been naturalized in Hongkong, send their wives at critical periods to the Colony for a time in order that the children may be born British subjects, and (as in this case happens) remain so although they return to China. These children, when they grow up, are indistinguishable from other Chinese. They speak, as their native language, some dialect of Chinese; they live on Chinese food, wear Chinese costume, cultivate a queue, and, as often as not, reside and own land in the interior. In a word, they endeavour to enjoy all the advantages of British subjects in China, such as immunity from the control of Chinese officials, and at the same time to evade all the disabilities attaching to the character of foreigner. Entirely to prevent these abuses is utterly impossible by any means but one. Were it rigidly enforced in colonies where persons of Chinese origin form a part of the population, that any of them who are, or who become, British subjects should adopt British costume (which involves the sacrifice of their queues,) the abuses must cease automatically. For Chinese who intend to remain subjects of the Emperor of China this outward change, though it has been seriously put forward as a desirable reform, is not a matter of any moment. But it is

of great moment, and becomes daily more important, that such as become subjects of foreign states should show that they do so with an honest intention, and not merely with a view to obtaining, in China, an unfair advantage over their fellow Celestials." The desirability of having British subjects ear-marked in some such manner may be admitted; but the practicable nature of the proposition is another story. In time, it is not improbable that the Chinese on the coast, whether under British rule or not, will follow the Japanese example, and adopt European costume. Many of them have already done so; and of these a large majority are they who have become subjects of foreign states "with an honest intention." We know of others who have honestly forsworn their native nationality, but who have an excusable, if not strictly honest, motive for retaining the native dress. We conclude, therefore, that it is not merely a question of clothes, as our contemporary appears to think; that circumstances would be against the suggested automatic cessation of abuses; and that the mere sartorial revolution would not of necessity inaugurate other reforms. It is poor human nature again. The lacklunds are the folk who are most in favour of land nationalisation; parents insist most upon the virtues of obedience; childless people write homilies upon the treatment of children; labour enlarges upon the iniquities of capital; and capital (assisted by your Rev. R. J. CAMPBELLS) preaches of the joy of work for work's sake. So, we suspect, the Chinaman of a certain social status hastens to show his preference for the fair rule of the foreigner, who oppresses him never; but when that same Chinaman gets into a position where strict justice would be against his interests, he finds it convenient to hark to the place where the bribe awaits, and "squeeze" is regarded as a process of nature. In other words, British freedom and liberty is analogous to the free will about which the theologians prate: it has its limitations: the goat with a long tether is free to the extent of the rope: it may decide absolutely to travel in a circle or in a straight line, to the left or to the right. The British subject, as the Chinese have discovered, is free and has perfect liberty—to do right. His privileges have their concomitant responsibilities. The unworthy subject wants the first without the second. To enjoy the first he flees to Canton. Supposing it were constitutional to insist upon British subjects wearing certain clothes and dressing their hair in a certain way—for which the passing of a "sumptuary ordinance" would be necessary—there would result, no doubt, considerable reduction of immigration; and once in, there would be less incentive to seek Chinese jurisdiction again. In theory, therefore, the class of Chinese-British subjects would be winnowed and improved. But in practice, ways would be found of surmounting the difficulty. The shorn Chinaman, resuming the plumage of the son of HAN, would not be so ridiculously easy of detection as is the blonde missionary who struts in borrowed plumes, vainly imagining that gown and false pigtail bring him nearer to his quarry. Our idea is that the abuses complained of are inevitable so long as transit is easy and extradition hard, and clothes would not make much difference either way. Besides, the difficulties would increase enormously if (and so much seems to follow) every Chinaman inland who cut off his queue and wore trousers could go to the nearest consul and claim assistance as a British subject. Registration

remains the best method of dividing the sheep from the goats.

ESOTERIC CONSTITUTIONALISM IN CHINA.

(Daily Press, 19th September.)

But a few years ago it was a universally accepted axiom in politics that oriental nations did not contain within themselves the elements necessary for the successful adoption of representative institutions. The examples brought forward in support of the thesis were unanswerable, and the West, and more especially the Teutonic West, including therein all peoples who could lay any claim to Germanic relationship, laid much flattering unction accordingly to its soul. It was naturally temporarily forgotten that one of the countries where representative institutions had longest flourished was Hungary, where the Magyar influence has ever been in the ascendant, and that no country has struggled longer and in the long run more successfully for the maintenance of its civic liberties, though placed under conditions extremely adverse. A further illustration of the insufficiency of the foundation on which this argument has been based is furnished in the recent history of the Latin races, which seemed to have an especial capacity for undergoing ill government. Under Visigoths and Burgundians France had, on the decline of the Roman Empire, succeeded in establishing free institutions where the people were represented. As the vivifying power of the Germanic stock died out, a succession of rulers under different dynasties made gradual encroachments, till in the eighteenth century France to all purposes had become a practical autocracy. In Spain much the same thing happened; the Vandal and Visigoths introduced free institutions, but the Moors conquered the land, and after their expulsion the kingdom became a military state and the last vestiges of liberty were lost. Under the Emperor CHARLES V. and his successors the Cortes were reduced to a machine for merely registering the Royal decrees, and were finally extinguished. In Italy the Goths and Lombards also established their free assemblies, and after the break up of these kingdoms the powers of the state were continued in the cities. Here, as formerly in Greece, liberty gave way to licentiousness, and the cities grew into contemptible despotisms, in which state we find them in the end of the eighteenth century. Then came the French Revolution; it commenced with a period of unbridled liberty; it ended in a military despotism. On the final fall of the first Empire the Congress of Vienna undertook to re-establish Europe and, indifferent to the needs and desires of the people, it was divided up amongst the various rulers. Representative institutions were in the new arrangements studiously ignored. Russia, in fact, was the model, and the Tsar ALEXANDER was for a time practically the arbiter of the Continent; never was popular government at so low an ebb, and the various monarchs set themselves sedulously to repress the few remains that survived. The plot was, however, not successful, and in 1848 began the inevitable reaction. France, Germany, Austria, followed by several of the minor states, established constitutional governments; and though some of these were afterwards dissolved or modified, on the whole the various peoples contrived to secure wider privileges than before. France, however, fell under a second Empire, though this, nominally at least, was founded on popular institutions. Impelled by the popular feeling Louis

NAPOLÉON, now Emperor of the French, undertook to free northern Italy from the oppression of the petty rulers under the thumb of Austria, to which it had been consigned by the Congress: the movement was more successful than he had calculated on or probably desired. At all events, in a few years it resulted in the establishment of a constitutional monarchy over the whole of Italy, shortly afterwards to be followed by the concession of popular rule in Hungary. Except in Germany, where popular government is kept in hand by a powerful Imperial Monarchy, the whole of Europe, excluding, of course, Russia and the Ottoman Empire, has now come effectively under constitutional rule, with the best effects on rulers and people alike. In the two Americas, South Africa, and Australia, popular government is also the rule, so that with the exception of Asia, and the two practically Asiatic nations of Russia and Turkey, the whole of the civilised world has now thrown in its lot with constitutionalism as the best form of government.

In Asia, where the first great empires of the world had their origin, the people as such have never had any voice in their own national affairs. None of the great ancient empires ever conceived such a thing, nor did the people ever imagine that they had any claim to interfere in the councils of their rulers. Disaffection did from time to time appear, but it was the unwillingness of independent nations to be brought into subjection by their neighbours; not any dissatisfaction with the mere form of government, which neither they nor their rulers considered affected them in any way. Except perhaps a few mountain tribes, none of these peoples had any conception of liberty as understood by the Greeks, their idea of liberty being simply freedom to plunder their neighbours. Still, we hear in various quarters of peoples with more advanced ideas. The Zend Avesta in its first chapter speaks of the dwellers by the Ranga (the upper Jaxartes), "governed without kings." In almost similar words the Shiki tells of the Tocharians in ancient Bactria, who had no supreme ruler, each city or town electing its own chiefs. But these peoples were closely connected with the Getae, the forebears of the European Goths, and apparently the idea of liberty has been congenital. Now it is interesting to note that the founders of the first states in China were immigrants from these same districts, and not distantly connected with these very people; and we do find amongst the early Chinese traces of their influence. MENCIUS was as free in his comments on government and governors as any modern constitutional statesman. Talking of the old traditions of YAO and SHUN someone asks him:—Was it the case, then, that YAO gave the Empire to SHUN? By no means, was the reply, no one but Heaven can confer the Empire. So! But did Heaven do this in so many words? By no means, Heaven does not use words. It indicated its choice in his conduct of affairs. YAO presented SHUN to Heaven, but he could not by doing so compel Heaven to confer the Empire. YAO, indeed, presented him, and Heaven accepted, and the people, knowing this, accepted also. But may I venture to ask, goes on his interlocutor, regarding this presentation to Heaven, and its acceptance, how came the people to know it? He was commissioned to make the sacrifices, and the Spiritual Hosts were favourable; thus Heaven showed its acceptance; he was commissioned to preside over affairs, and affairs were well conducted, and the people had ease; thus the people showed them acceptance.

Here we see, then, expressed in a few pithy sentences, the fundamental principles of constitutional government. The Emperor is, indeed, the Tientse, but the old pronunciation of the latter syllable was not *tee* but *tar*, and indicated not the *son*, but the *doer*, executor. The ruler is, indeed, commissioned by heaven, but the commission, like that of the English judge, is only during "good behaviour," and automatically ceases through misconduct, or when the executor exceeds his trust. Such has ever been tacitly assumed as the foundation of the Chinese Empire, and though but few have had the courage to state it as plainly as MENCIUS, it has always been the reason assigned for the many changes of dynasty which mark Chinese history. In recommending, then, to the Throne the despatch to Europe of Commissioners to enquire into the practice of Representative Government, its present advisers have been recommending no new departure. Rebellion and deposition are hard words, but inefficiency in government shows disrespect to the decrees of Heaven; so much the traditions of antiquity teach. Is there no alternative short of disruption by which the present paralysis of government may be rectified? Such is the problem now engaging the most trusted advisers of the Throne. Doubtless the example of Japan has had much to say to the inception of the movement. Japan has learnt much of China, not least of all in her theories of government; but in these as in other things she has gone ahead of her teachers. Is it possible that in introducing representative institutions she has really hit on the solution of the difficulty?

CHINESE OLD-STYLE EXAMINATION ABOLISHED.

(Daily Press 20th September.)

China, like MARK TWAIN'S glacier, is indeed moving, although without any very apparent stir. The Imperial Decree summarily abolishing the ancient fashion of competitive literary examinations will perhaps in days to come be recognised as an important landmark in the history of the neighbouring vast empire. It was one of the proposed reforms that got the Emperor KWANG HSU into trouble with his ultra-conservative aunt; and there is some temptation to speculate as to the DOWAGER-EMPRESS'S present feelings with regard to the Ministers whose joint recommendations are responsible for it. These are mentioned as YUAN SHIH-KAI, CHAO ERH SEN, CHANG CHIH-TUNG, CHOU FU, TSEN CH'UN-HSUEN (the new acting Viceroy of the two Kwang) and TUAN FANG (governor of Hunan). Not one of these names is unknown to the foreign reader of Chinese news; and in combination, they appear to have over-awed the cantankerous old lady at Peking, whom we shall never suspect of any weakening in her attitude towards changes of any kind. This particular departure from the traditional practice must have appeared very obnoxious, indeed, in her eyes, for it has been the glory of the nation that in these examinations any diligent scholar, of whatever social class, might find the open sesame to rank and wealth and power. It is suspected, notwithstanding the elaborate precautions, that the best students did not always win; and that not all the winners received the rewards they were led to expect. It is a question now whether the change is wholly or only partially reformatory. As breaking the crust of hereditary prejudice, it is something to be thankful for; but we do not think the decree is what young KWANG HSU would have passed while under the advice of

KANG YU-WEI. His idea, it will be remembered, was not to abolish the examinations but to remodel them; and the intended modifications are sufficiently indicated by his allusion to "empty and useless knowledge, which has no practical value in the crisis we are passing through." The uninformed reader can fairly estimate the quality of the qualifying lore thus stigmatised by picturing to himself a British parliament, and all the Government offices, filled by Standard Seven youths who had memorised the maximum number of the adages at the head of the old-fashioned copy-books, the whole of Proverbs, and as many of the more hackneyed quotations from SHAKESPEARE as was possible. The Chinese official of yesterday, whatever the nature of his office, had to be a sort of animated "Confucian Birthday Book," with a suitable quotation for every day, or better still, for every incident of every day. This was always amusing to write and read about; but it was painful politically, for those who hoped to see China taking her place among the living. England herself, from her men of affairs, long ago insisted upon something more than tags from HORACE or VIRGIL. The demand for similes is still felt; but our orators now make their own, or use popular ones in the vernacular. "Fire is a good servant but a bad master" is better than "*Nec servum meliorem ullum, nec deteriozem dominum fuisse*;" it is sooner said; conveys exactly the same point; and frees the speaker (or writer) from any suspicion of pedantry. The old Chinese system was to rear a tribe of pedants, who, like all pedants, were astonishingly ignorant of practical modern affairs. The decree, which contains an allusion almost identical with the stock argument of the pedagogues who still favour classicism in England, has been translated in part as follows:—

"Before the era of what is termed the Three Dynasties, men for office were selected from the schools, and it must be confessed that the plan produced many talented men. It was, indeed, a most successful plan for the creation of a nursery for the disciplining of talents and the moulding of character for our empire of China. Indeed the examples before us of the wealth and power of Japan and the countries of the West have their foundation in no other than their own schools. Just now we are passing through a crisis fraught with difficulties and the country is most urgently in want of men of talents and abilities (of the modern sort). Owing to the fact that, of late, modern methods of education have been daily on the increase amongst us, we repeatedly issued our commands to all our Viceroy and Governors of provinces to lose no time in establishing modern schools of learning in such number that every member of this Empire may have the means at these to study and learn something substantial in order to prepare himself to be of use to his country. We have, indeed, thought deeply on this subject.

Hence if we desire to see the spread of modern education by the establishment of a number of schools, we must first abolish the old style of studying for the examinations. . . . We, therefore, hereby command that, beginning from the Ping-wu Cycle (1906), all competitive examinations for the literary degrees of Chü-jên and Chin-shih (Master of Arts and Doctor) after the old style shall be henceforth abolished, while the annual competitions in the cities of the various provinces for the Hsiuts'ai (Bachelor of Arts) or licentiate degree are also to be abolished at once. Those possessors of literary grades of the old style Chü-jên and Hsiuts'ai who obtained their degrees prior to the issuance of this decree shall be given opportunities to take up official rank according to their respective grades and abilities."

Much as we admire the philosophy of CONFUCIUS, we have to admit, with Dr. LEGER, that he "makes no provision for the intercourse of his country with other and independent nations." The literati

are no doubt bright ornaments of their own circles; but in her Foreign Office and elsewhere, China has need of men such as Japan has in Baron KOMURA and Baron SONO. To get such, her educational system must be reformed in some such way as Japan's was. We hope this historical decree may prove to be a step thatward.

CLERKS' WAGES.

(Daily Press, 21st September.)

The letter of a "griffin" to our Shanghai contemporary, which we reproduced a day or two ago, opened up a subject of interest to both employers and employed. We have received communications relating to the subject; but unfortunately, these are from employees, who merely support the complaints of the Shanghai griffin, without giving figures applicable to Hongkong. One branches off into a complaint that Hongkong employees who are not military men or government officials are practically denied hospital privileges when they are sick. Our idea was that taipans would read with interest any details really showing the conditions awaiting the young men they import from England, or other European countries; and that information might be forthcoming that would help to suppress the foolish "pagoda tree" fables that have caused so much disappointment to past generations of griffins; and that will doubtless go on causing discontent among young men who come out with great expectations, and a deficient sense of proportion. Facts and figures from either side will not be suppressed by us; but they must be real facts and figures, illustrating the real conditions; and not mere *réchauffage* of the Shanghai griffin's arguments. That young man dwelt upon the financial worries experienced by a clerk who abandons £120 a year in England to come out to China for a salary ranging from \$2,200 to \$2,600 a year. Accepting those figures, we would say at once that he would have done better to remain at home, for he could hardly hope to better his position, knowing what we do of the facilities at home and the temptations out here. But having come, we cannot agree that his position is so bad as this Shanghai correspondent represents. To begin with, he ought to have gained mental assets by the travel and its novel experiences; and there should be no immediate necessity for his plunging into debt with the compradore, for sufficient occupation for the leisure of his first few months should be cheaply found in looking about and inspecting his new environment. While these numerous gratis shows retain their interest, as they should, being much more interesting than the entertainments brought by the second-rate theatrical companies who tour the East, he need not think of the \$12 per month expenditure which he has set down for "carriage hire, theatre, concerts, &c." Let that come by and by, when the Orient has nothing new to show him; and when he will have discovered means of economy which will provide that surplus and more. He will, for instance, have discovered that in paying \$95 a month for board, lodging, and attendance, he has been paying more than he need have done. A clerk with £120 in England would find suitable lodgings at £1 a week; he may have board and lodging equally good—board and attendance perhaps a little better—in both Shanghai and Hongkong for \$80 a month. It can be done respectably for \$70; but not by those who go to the first fashionable boarding house to which they may be recommended. It would perhaps be too great

an infliction to deal at present with all the details of the accounts submitted by this Shanghai griffin, to show that he cannot keep out of debt with \$188 a month. The entrance fee for the club is hardly a sufficient excuse for becoming involved with the money lender. He should, if he has not managed to save £10 from his previous £120 per annum, postpone his entrance to the club until he has saved the necessary \$100. He need not thus be debarred from social communion with his fellows. If these figures have any interest at all, it is because they apply to more than this one young man. Why not, therefore, seek out companions in like position, who share his terrible embarrassments, and combine to relieve the tedium of existence less expensively? This would-be economist, who finds the conditions out here so intolerable, discovers that "drinks" are much dearer. They were "only threepence" at home. By dint of self denial (he calls it wonderful self-control to do with four whiskies and sodas a day) he reduces his drink bill to its minimum of \$21 a month. If he got his sodas by the dozen and kept his own bottle of whisky at his boarding house (since he drinks only at meals) it would not be so much. But even then, he forgets that on his own admission, with only four threepenny drinks a day, he had to spend 30s. a month, so that \$21 is not such a startling leap into extravagance for him. The "dice-shaking" of the Eastern bar is no worse than the customary "treating" of the London bar; and the young man who cannot afford it should not go where he is likely to be coerced into such easy ways of making money fly. The trouble with most of these cases is that the elementary lesson is still to learn, that you cannot eat your cake and have it. The taipan or his agent who tells the young recruit that it is possible to save some of his salary is not guilty of misrepresentation. But it depends greatly on the ideas and character of the young man himself. There is one thing that agents recruiting for Far Eastern offices are perhaps careless in. In many cases they can look back to pleasant days spent in the Orient by themselves, and they sometimes direct the young emigrant's thoughts to prospects of pleasant trips to sunny Japan and gemmy Macao; instead of impressing upon him that the first and chief prospect, as well as the great essential, is work.

THE "MIKASA" EXPLOSION.

(Daily Press, 12nd September.)

However much the caution of the Japanese Government in preventing immature information of movements of the army and fleet becoming public is to be commended, the same praise cannot be extended to the remarkable cloud of secrecy with which it has covered the explosion on board the *Mikasa*. Sasebo, the principal naval station of Japan, though situated within some thirty miles of Nagasaki, is so admirably concealed by nature and art, that although the line of railway from Nagasaki to Moji passes within a few miles, and a branch line has been made to the port itself, practically nothing is known to the outer world of its position or resources. That this has proved of immense benefit to Japan during the War goes without saying, but it adds immensely to the difficulty of forming any correct judgment of what took place early on the morning of the 11th inst. The Japanese Government, continuing its policy of secrecy long after there was any advantage to be gained by

concealment, has practically invited the worst construction to be placed on the disaster; and her enemies have not unnaturally taken ample advantage of the situation to spread abroad the most alarming reports. According to the only account that has yet appeared, the ship took fire about a quarter past one on the morning of the 11th. About twenty-five minutes after this the magazine blew up, and in another fifty minutes, owing to a hole having been made below the water line, the ship went down, with the result that between killed, wounded and missing there was a loss of 599 men. Admiral Togo was not on board, having apparently been sent for to Tokyo, where, owing to the dissatisfaction of the people at the unsatisfactory conclusion of peace, serious riots were taking place. Such is the tale put forward by the authorities; it is difficult to make it hold water. Certain Russian sympathisers, disgusted at the ignominious defeat of the Russians, and unwilling to attribute it to its true cause, the utter want of any feeling of patriotism and the complete absence of discipline, have been seeking on every occasion to vilify the Japanese, and attribute to them the defects of the others; and, taking advantage of the mystery which the unwise silence of the Japanese Government has created, have spread about a theory of their own. According to them the Japanese crew, taking advantage of the absence of Admiral Togo, and excited by the rumours that had reached them of the dissatisfaction of the population of the Capital at what seemed to them the impotent conclusion of the war, rose in open mutiny, and some of their number gaining access to the magazine, exploded it, with the result that not only themselves and the ship, but practically the entire crew were destroyed. This act of collective suicide seems improbable; but to suit their purpose, Japan's enemies point out that all through the war, with a contempt for death singularly Japanese, the sailors and soldiers alike have shown themselves willing, when an adequate result was to be gained, to sacrifice not only their own lives, but those of their companions; and did Admiral Togo or his officers call upon the crew to sacrifice themselves at the demand of duty there is little doubt that the call would have been almost willingly responded to. Here was however, no call of duty, but the very reverse and we may feel fairly confident that however individual members of the crew may have looked upon the peace as a disgrace to themselves personally they would never have permitted it to stand in the way of their duty to their sovereign. Had such a thing as a mutiny been agitated by a few fanatics amongst the crew the great majority would have stood resolutely by their officers as readily as they did in the day of battle.

But, as we have said, the story of the affair as officially told hardly holds together. The *Mikasa* was built in Barrow, and was launched only in 1902. Now the lesson taught imperatively by the Battle of the Yalu was the absolute necessity of making battleships, as far as skill could go, absolutely fireproof, and that this provision had been carried out her conduct all through the war amply proved. If a fire did break out in the men's quarters we may be assured there were all the necessary means for its extinction ready at hand. Next to the provisions against fire breaking out are those to prevent its spreading by any possibility to the magazine; and in addition to this, modern warships always contain a provision for immediately flooding the

magazines in case of danger. The Japanese are not by nature a careless race; on the contrary one of their chief characteristics is their facility for organisation; and if one thing more than another distinguished their conduct during the campaign it was the wonderful manner in which every eventuality had been worked out from the beginning. In the first place, then, it was extremely unlikely that a fire would break out, especially at night. In the next place had it broken out, there is no likelihood that the means for its extinction were not at hand and ready for immediate service. In the third place, had the fire broken out and the means for its extinction were not immediately available we may be sure that every precaution possible had been taken in the building of the ship to prevent its communication to the magazine. The interval between the alleged breaking out of the fire and the explosion was given as only twenty-five minutes. To suppose that a fire on board, however fierce, could have communicated with the magazine is to cast such a heavy reflection, not only on the builders, but on the discipline of the ship, as is utterly at variance with what we know regarding both one and the other.

But the ship blew up; and there must have been a cause. That at least is self-evident; but what was the cause? Here we are in the same difficulty as the critics. We may, however, make a suggestion, if once we are permitted to get rid of the suggested fire. Modern explosives are of so tender a nature, and the bond that holds the various components together is of so unstable a nature, that all governments who have experimented on their composition are aware of the danger. Most modern explosives have for their base picric acid, and without the most stringent precautions one and all of these combinations are apt to degenerate and enter into new. Now the Japanese owed much of the success of their artillery to the use of a new explosive to which they gave the name of shimose. The invention was not altogether new; for a very similar mixture has been experimented on by the British War office, and rejected on account of the instability of its composition. The Japanese experts, however, claimed to have overcome these difficulties, and certainly during the war it seemed to have answered all that was required of it not only as to power, but also as regarded non-liability to disruption. May not the explosion have had some connection with this new powder? We merely throw out the suggestion for what it is worth. The large number of casualties seems to point to the crew having been taken unawares. The complement of the *Mikasa* was a little over nine hundred all told. It is unlikely that after the destruction of the Russian fleet the full complement was on board. Peace too was in sight and it is not unlikely that many men were away on leave. If we suppose that seven hundred were on board we should probably be about the mark; of these six hundred are killed, wounded or missing. This would seem to indicate a sudden explosion when the men, except the few required for patrol duty, were in bed. It is hardly consistent with the suggestion that they were at their stations employed in putting out a fire. If the Japanese are misjudged meanwhile, it will be because their Government is not quite free from blame.

American papers report that the pearl and shell fisheries in the Sulu group of the Philippine archipelago promise to be an important industry in the near future.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Legislative Council was held at the Council Chamber on September 21st.

There were present:—

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR, MAJOR SIR MATTHEW NATHAN, K.C.M.G.

Hon. Colonel C. H. DARLING, R.E. (General Officer Commanding the Troops).

Hon. Mr. T. SERCOMBE SMITH (Colonial Secretary).

Hon. Sir H. S. BERKELEY, K.C. (Attorney-General).

Hon. Mr. L. A. M. JOHNSTON (Colonial Treasurer).

Hon. Mr. E. A. IRVING (Registrar-General).

Hon. Mr. BASIL H. TAYLOR, R.N. (Harbour Master).

Hon. Mr. W. CHATHAM (Director of Public Works).

Hon. Mr. R. SHEWAN.

Hon. Sir C. P. CHATER, C.M.G.

Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, M.B., C.M., C.M.G.

Hon. Mr. GERSHOM STEWART.

Hon. Mr. WEI YUK.

Hon. Mr. W. C. DICKSON.

Mr. A. G. M. FLETCHER (Clerk of Councils).

MINUTES.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

REPORTS.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—I move that the Financial minutes, No. 35 and 39, be referred to the Finance Committee.

The COLONIAL TREASURER—I second it.

The motion was agreed to.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—I beg to lay on the table the report of the Finance Committee No. 7 and move its adoption.

The COLONIAL TREASURER—I second it.

The motion was agreed to.

THE ESTIMATES.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—It is usual for a member who is in charge of a Bill to avail himself of the second reading to take the opportunity to say something about the Bill and urge its merits, but in view of the lucid and comprehensive explanation of the estimates of 1906 given from the chair a fortnight ago, I think I cannot with advantage make any additional remark, and I will simply content myself by moving the second reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to apply a sum not exceeding Five million seven hundred and seventeen thousand two hundred and seventy six Dollars to the Public Service of the year 1906.

The COLONIAL TREASURER—I beg to second it.

Hon. Mr. SHEWAN—After Your Excellency's full explanation of the Estimates there is not much left for me to say, but there are one or two points on which I think we should have more light. The Bill in connection with the Widows' and Orphans' Fund has not yet been laid before us and it does not seem to me to be correct to include this appropriation in the Estimates: for if we vote the Estimates we commit ourselves to the principle of a bill which has not yet been passed. The money it is proposed to appropriate belongs to the Government servants from whose salaries it has been deducted. It is in the nature of a trust fund and should be treated accordingly, but it is put down in the Estimates as Revenue. I feel sure that no auditor or accountant would pass this except as capital from the interest on which the pensions are derived. How the Government can propose to appropriate the large amount of \$221,000 without even saying by your leave to the men to whom it belongs I cannot understand. I notice, too, that these pensions will require a clerk &c., &c., costing \$3,000 per annum, so that at the very outset we are plunged into an extra expense. This item is put down as exempt from military contribution, but is it so? Ordinance No 1 of 1901 ex mpts only proceeds of land sales and leases, and therefore before this money is dealt with a clear understanding must be come to with the military. As a detail I would ask that the rate of exchange at which the pensions on page 7 of the Estimates are paid in London should be stated, as at present it is very misleading. \$491,645 to be spent by the Sanitary

Department is enormous. How is it that at Canton where there is little or no such precautions or expenditure plague is never worse than it is here where we keep an army of men doing nobody seems to know what? Half the money spent on Water Works, it seems to me would be far more to the purpose, and instead, of so many bacteriologists we might have a trained entomologist from home who would teach us how to trace out and demolish the white ant and other insect pests which cause a huge loss to this Colony every year by their destruction of property. I regret very much the deferment of the No. 2. section of the Tytam Water Works scheme. You say 'a large outlay if we can afford it would hasten the completion of the project.' Then why not afford it? If the outlay cannot be met out of revenue we must have a loan, but do not let us lose a moment in pushing forward the whole work to completion as soon as possible by every means in our power. I hope that the \$75,000 spent on flushing tanks for the drains will enable us to do away with the present disgusting system of cleaning the sewers by hauling chains through them. While on this subject I would protest against the way in which the Praya and other places are being disfigured by unsightly urinals, which should be built underground, and not almost immediately below people's offices and verandahs where they are a nuisance and an offence. The comparative figures for 1831 and 1906 are interesting, but although we spend a great deal more money now I do not know that Hongkong to-day is as pleasant a place as it was then when we did not have the Sanitary Board making away with 11.15 per cent. of our revenue. Nor does it seem to me to be creditable that with a far greater population our expenditure on education should, as you say, have dropped from 3.95 per cent. to 2.73 per cent. It is quite right to economise and cut down expenses, but it should not be done at the cost of education. I am sorry to see that the Government has done nothing to stop the influx of coins from the mainland. It is little short of a disgrace that the people of a British Colony should have to use a debased foreign coin which the Banks refuse to accept, and which even the ricksha coolies will only take at a large discount. There is another matter which the Government if it wishes to assist the trade of this Colony might look into, and that is, the registration of Chinese partnerships. The present want of system plays into the hands of bank compradores and others who try to make money by guaranteeing obscure or unknown Chinese hongts and firms, but much misery and loss would have been prevented this year if merchants and traders had been able to know better with whom they were dealing. I am glad to hear that something is to be done to give better roads to Kowloon, but why does the Government tinker with the matter in this way? Why can it not draw up a fixed and definite scheme of wide roads and broad boulevards for Kowloon and the New Territory to which all building sites and building must conform instead of the present haphazard system of running a street here and a road there just as some one happens to put up a house? It will have to be done all over again just as in London to-day they have a Royal Commission, whose report run into 8 volumes, laying down a scheme of road improvements for London which is estimated to cost thirty million pounds nearly, all of which might have been avoided and saved if the Government of that day had adopted the advice and carried out the plans submitted to them by Sir Christopher Wren and John Evelyn for the rebuilding of the town after the Great Fire of London. It will be the same with Kowloon later on if we do not look ahead and exercise a little forethought and imagination. The new scale of salaries for subordinate officers will, I fear, not do very much good. It is a step in the right direction, of course, for if you want a good man you must pay good wages, but you will never secure efficiency until you give the Heads of Departments full power to dismiss with or without commutation of pension, otherwise the good men leave while the indolent and incompetent remain with you only to swell your pay roll and pension list. Stimulating industries would I think be best effected by the Government giving up its

practice of always exacting the last cent whenever a piece of ground is wanted for a new industry. I know of one contemplated industry which it was seriously intended to start in Canton on this account. In another case the Company which had bought the ground from the Government and cleared it of squatters at its own expense was asked 124 times the original cost for a small piece it wanted for an extension for housing its workmen. Needless to say the ground was not bought, and the last time I saw it, it was still lying idle. In another case a concern was called to account for making a path to a piece of ground on the top of a hill which it has bought from the Government, although in what other way the men, not being birds, were supposed to get there I have never understood. In a third case it was attempted to bring a factory to book for having built a well within its curtilage, but this fell through because on being asked, the Government could not explain what the curtilage was. With regard to the last item touched upon by your Excellency, "Sport," I am quite in agreement with Mr. Kipling, and do not think in this Colony it requires any encouragement. If our young men were but to serve their masters as diligently as they serve their god "Sport," we should not see the British slowly driven out of the trade of China by the hard-working German, the thrifty Japanese, and the untiring Chinaman. In trade and commerce to-day the race is to the man who gives himself entirely up to it, and who, like St. Paul, has put away childish things. We shall never regain our old position in the Far East by encouraging our men to dream all day of polo ponies, cricket matches, and boat races.

Hon. Mr. GERSHOM STEWART — After the luminous and comprehensive review which we had all the pleasure of listening to from your Excellency on the first reading of the Estimates for the year 1906, it may perhaps appear somewhat unnecessary to say much more upon a subject which has been dealt with already in such a masterly and thorough manner. But as Mr. Shewan and I have been detailed off by the unofficial members to review the Government programme I ask your indulgence while I give some ideas that occur to me. It would be hardly right if the unofficial members, content as they are at the general position of affairs, passed this Bill in silence and voted away \$7,000,000 of public money without comment of any sort. To say nothing might suggest two possibilities (1) that the unofficial members are no good—a possibility I have more than once seen darkly hinted at, or (2) that the administration has arrived at a state of perfection and is above criticism. As to the first, I am in too delicate a position to offer any opinion; and to admit the second would be lamentable to us all, for as things are ever changing in this restless world, the next change which must come after perfection is a step towards decay. I am glad to say that there are imperfections enough in the Government programme to make one feel assured that we still belong to a healthy and progressive body. The sum of \$243,000 brought in under the heading of the Widows and Orphans Fund is one requiring some explanation. We have no figures of any sort on which to form an opinion as to this novel departure. It seems to be exempt from military contribution but how that exemption is effected is not explained. If a vote of this Council is sufficient to excuse any item of revenue received from the 20 per cent. tax, it is a precedent which will probably be freely availed of in the future. In addition to our own affairs it seems a large order that by a stroke of the pen taxpayers should be called upon to accept the responsibilities of a life insurance company. When the Bill explaining this item comes on for consideration we can then consider the details of the scheme. Meantime our only course is to vote solidly against the inclusion of the figures in the Estimates and so publicly state that we view the whole project with disfavour. Your Excellency will pardon me if I seem exacting as to demands for public work, but you will remember that for ten solid years, from 1894 and onwards, all our spare money went towards fighting the plague and it is only now that we can undertake many useful works which have been unavoidably held over. The immense increase in the opium revenue

coincides with a great improvement in the public health, and we are naturally desirous of utilising to the full the strong position we are in at the present moment and doing everything in our power to make up the leeway of the lean plague years. Firstly and chiefly, the point in the Government programme which calls for adverse criticism is the cessation of work upon the scheme of a greater reservoir at Tylamuk, which will, when completed, solve as far as it is possible for us to solve the question of a constant supply of water to the Island of Hongkong. This is of such pre-eminent importance to the best interests of the colony that any delay is to be much deprecated. I trust sincerely that the arrangements for pumping are being developed, to prevent as far as possible the wastage of good water running through Tylam valley to the sea. There are three questions which I hope the Director of Public Works will answer when the estimates for his department come to be passed: (1) During the last 5 years, how long during each year has the whole Colony been on a constant water supply? (2) What progress has been made with the rider mains, and what saving does he estimate will ensue? (3) What amount of water is estimated to carry on the new system of flushing sewers, and will it be all fresh water? Cannot some of those cataracts which go foaming to the sea in wet weather on the north side of the island be in some degree impounded and harnessed to do the work of flushing drains? After six months' dry weather in the spring it is trying to all of us to see quantities of good bath water and drinking water go gurgling down the sewers. Those of us who lived through the drought of 1902 and know the annual recurrence of a short water supply on the upper levels can only view with regret any failure to cope with this most irksome infliction. I have known parents paying large taxes to see their children playing unwashed. I have known a high military officer stand and see his house burnt down and all his treasures consumed before his eyes, helpless for want of water, when every coolie in the town was enjoying a constant and unlimited supply. I think it may fairly be claimed that the attitude of the Executive towards the water supply has been justly open to criticism during the last 15 years. When Tylam was finished they seemed to think that finality had been arrived at and that they could fold their hands and sit down for good and all. The supply into all houses in the town soon dissipated this idea, and it is therefore with great regret that one sees any relaxation towards the desired end of a large and constant water supply. With a clean plague sheet, a happy state shared also in the city of Canton which has no Sanitary Board, the amount of \$491,645 put down for sanitary expenses seems enormous. Were it not for a reduction of \$10,000 for disinfectants the total amount of this vote would exceed \$500,000 in 1906. If one protests too loudly the bogey of the colonies ruin and plague tearing rampant through the streets, is shaken before our eyes. It is not an item therefore that non-expert people care to take a strong stand against. At the same time we may be pardoned for drawing your Excellency's particular attention to this great outlay of public funds, and we appeal to you with your acknowledged grasp of detail and capacity for organisation to satisfy yourself that we get value for our money. It is difficult for anyone to feel assured that over 500 men can be fully employed in sanitary work at the present time. The diminution of \$25,000 in the anticipated revenue from felling trees is very welcome to all of us who love our woodland scenery. While on the subject of trees I venture to congratulate the Government on their scheme for planting the hills on the north side of the harbour, and I hope to see the red topped hills of Kowloon included in the programme and perhaps wreathed with laurels. As the increase in trees means that so much less earth is washed by rainstorms into the harbour and on the principle that prevention is always better than cure, the more woods you have the less work you will have to do when it comes to dredging the harbour. The approaches to the town from the harbour are still in a poor condition and I see no provision for their improvement in the present budget. The dilapidated marshes which, at times, ornament the three chief

piers are not worthy approaches to a port which claims to be the third in the world. A spark from the funnel of a steam launch was sufficient to remove the Ferry marshes in a few moments, a month or two ago, and the gale we had on August 30, although a little one, was sufficient to demolish the covering at Queen's Wharf. Luckily the shed at Blake Pier has stood although in a somewhat dilapidated state, and it would take but little to dissipate that venerable relic. When it is remembered how the sun pours down and the rain also on just and unjust alike I feel it is not asking too much that the elaborate plans for a proper approach to Blake Pier be extracted from their official pigeon hole and the work proceeded with forthwith. If your Excellency would further take the Clock Tower by the hand and lead it down towards the water front, and endow it with a large clean new face so that it could pass the time of day to every ship in the harbour, a busy street would be relieved of a long standing congestion and a considerable improvement would be effected. I note with gratitude that the requirements for improved typhoon shelter have your support and sympathy; may good wishes soon be translated into action and it will be a joyful day to folks afloat when they see the foundation stone of a new breakwater take its first plunge into the waters of this storm-swept harbour (applause from Dr. Ho Kai). One of the smallest items of expenditure is on page 55, the Ecclesiastical Vote, \$3,800. With regard to this, I respect the opinion of those who think there should be no state aid to religion, although I do not hold that opinion myself. Under limitations I think it advisable and at times even necessary. That the item appears at all in these estimates shows that the principle is accepted and, that being the case, it seems to me that we do not err on the side of generosity. Much work is done in visiting goals and hospitals and caring for the destitute and miserable by ministers of all denominations and the reward for these services appears to me entirely inadequate. With a revenue of \$7,000,000, and the principle of state aid to religion admitted, the colony squares its conscience cheaply by devoting about one sovereign per diem to services of this nature. This subject naturally makes one think of destitutes and of the increase in that field of charity which your Excellency desires us for our own moral advancement to solve by individual as opposed to public effort. I quite recognise the extreme inadvisability of making things too easy for the unfortunate (who in many instances are the lazy and self-indulgent). At the same time it is bad policy to press a willing horse far, and the charitable would appreciate stronger efforts on the part of the Executive to protect them from the ever increasing invasion from outside of the destitute and penniless European. Cases in plenty arise of ill-health and bad-luck amongst our own residents and without being niggardly it is manifestly our first duty to take care of those of our own household. For the earnest activity with which your Excellency has endeavoured to promote the Kowloon-Canton Railway the whole colony is grateful and we await with anxiety the result of the present negotiations at Peking upon the matter. Whatever the delay may be about these negotiations, I hope that your Excellency will pursue the policy of constructing that portion of the line lying within our own borders, for to see it running will have a fine moral effect upon public opinion in South China and I am sanguine enough to believe that in many ways it would repay the outlay. (Applause). As far as my observation has served me the new territory has up to now grown little beyond what the inhabitants require for themselves. Give them a quick and ready access to the markets of Hongkong and I hope that our New Territory, with an industrious and increasing population, rendered possible by augmented facilities for transport and communication, will spring into new life. Under the influence of the skillful husbandman, active because of a good market at hand for his produce, then will many of our barren hills rejoice and bring forth fruit, and many places now lying waste will ere long bloom and blossom like the rose. Succeeding generations will share with us the benefit of anything done now; let us therefore, if need be, borrow to

ensure the speedy accomplishment of manifestly useful works. To pay for everything out of income is a policy of caution which at times may wisely be departed from. With an ample revenue and a clean bill of health, with an energetic Governor who is also an engineer, with a zealous officer at the head of the P.W.D., backed up I hope and believe, by a keen and efficient staff; with labour as ever abundant; with the public purse able and willing to pay for any assistance his department may require, the present seems a golden opportunity for us to be up and doing. Let us see to it that we avail to the full of the auspicious fortune which the fates have given us. With the reservations I have referred to I have pleasure in supporting the second reading of this Bill (applause).

HIS EXCELLENCY—Before referring to the details of the two speeches to which we have just listened, I should like to thank the honourable member who has just spoken for his clear exposition of what he considers to be the views of the colony in the matter of public works, the Canton and Kowloon Railway and the development of the new territories. No exception having been taken to that view by other members of the Council, I take it as representing the opinion of the community and as such it will be most valuable to me in supporting various schemes that we have in hand and in contemplation. (Applause.) Going now into the details of the two speeches we have just heard delivered I would refer first to those points in the speech of the representative of the Chamber of Commerce and the Hon. Mr. Gershom Stewart. I am not prepared at the present moment to give a full explanation of the proposal to transfer to the Government the Widows and Orphans Pension Fund, the principle of which proposal was accepted by Government in Council and by the Directors of the Fund several years ago. Nor at the present time can I furnish the Council with the reasons which led them to pass existing and previous Ordinances which embodied many of the principles which will be included in the new Widows and Orphans Pension Fund Ordinance. Before effect can be given to the financial arrangements embodied in the estimates the Widows and Orphans Pension Fund Bill, which has already been introduced, must be passed by this Council. Ample opportunity will be given to the Council to consider and discuss the Bill. In the meantime as it is desired that the transfer of the Fund and that the issue of the large pensions which this transfer will give to the widows and orphans of past contributors should take effect from the beginning of next year, it has been necessary to take into consideration in the estimates the financial effect of the transfer, and I trust you will see fit to leave further discussion on the matter until the Bill is before you. It was my intention that the Bill should have been presented to the Council before you should be called upon to vote small amounts in the estimates of expenditure for administering the fund, but I received a representation from certain gentlemen whose widows or orphans would be interested in the Fund, and I wish to consider carefully that representation before proceeding with the measure. I may mention that the Bill will contain a clause, sanctioned by the Secretary of State, exempting military contributions to the Fund. Turning now to the question of the expenditure in the Sanitary Department, with which both gentlemen who spoke dealt in some detail, I would remind you of the old adage,—

The devil was sick, the devil a monk would be
The devil was well, the devil a monk was he.
The community was sick and was virtuously prodigal with money for sanitation. The community is well and is desirous of economising in this direction. Unofficial members anticipated that they would need to be defended against themselves, for a letter dated 7th June, 1901, from the Chamber of Commerce to the Government—on which Chamber some of the gentlemen present were sitting—contained the following paragraph:—

"My Committee desire to draw attention to the folly of allowing the prejudices of officials, the fear of expense, or the dread of unofficial opposition to stand in the way of the execution of sanitary measures which are known to be necessary and which have been insisted upon time after time by experts. If any doubt be

entertained as to the practicability or expedience or otherwise of such recommendations, no time should be lost in referring them to a higher authority for decision. The time has now arrived when vigorous action should be taken to secure the continuance of the progress of the Colony and to adequately protect the great commercial interests so adversely affected by these disastrous annual epidemics."

Possibly you may ask who are the experts, and the answer to that question is found in the preceding paragraph of the letter, which states:

"In the opinion of the Committee, the Colony possesses in the Medical Officer of Health a valuable and energetic officer, whose untiring efforts to promote the sanitation of the city merit every encouragement; whereas, his recommendations, like those of Mr. Chadwick, have been frequently ignored, shelved, or pared down when adopted."

In addition to that letter, written four years ago, there was a subsequent petition, sent to the Secretary of State which was numerously signed, and among the signatures I observe that of the present representative of the Chamber of Commerce. At the end of that petition there was the following statement:—

"The foregoing statements prove that the local Government has failed to give effect, save in a very qualified form, to the measures so frequently urged upon it by its own Medical Officers and other experts; its efforts, so far, have met with so little result, indeed, that the Colony is now suffering severely from the annually recurring visitations of plague and, in a lesser degree, of enteric fever and small-pox. The inadequacy of the measures adopted by the local Government in dealing with so grave a crisis may, we submit, be regarded as equivalent to a tacit admission on its part that it is beyond its power, of its own initiative, to undertake the gigantic task which a thorough and efficient reform of the sanitary conditions of the Colony, with the heavy expenditure and sacrifices attending it, would involve."

In answer to that petition the Secretary of State, as you are aware, sent out experts from England, Drs. Chadwick and Sampson, who prepared long and careful reports. These reports have been acted upon nearly in their entirety by the Government. The Public Health Ordinance of 1903 was introduced exactly on the lines recommended by Dr. Chadwick. Since this agitation,—and a proper agitation it was too—it may interest you if I tell you what the mortality statistics have been. In the year 1900 the death rate per thousand of the population was 25.78; in 1901, 23.55; in 1902, 21.70; in 1903, 18.19; in 1904, 19.4. That was the total death of British, foreigners, and Chinese. The Public Health Ordinance, to which I have referred, was passed in 1903. In that year the deaths from plague numbered 1,251, in 1904 they numbered 495, and this year at the end of the plague season the number was 274. I do not go so far as to claim that these improvements are due to the measures taken by the Government but I do claim that they cannot be cited by honourable members to show that those measures have been ineffectual or that the expenditure on sanitary measures has been wasted. At the same time, as I stated before, we take every possible means to see that the sanitary expenditure is not wasted and that the different amounts appearing in the estimates are not spent unless the necessity arises. Last year there was a considerable saving and I hope there will this year be a surplus on the plague estimate to meet excesses in other directions. This year there has been a saving of \$12,000 in that department. The decrease in the sanitary vote was \$5,839, there was transferred to that vote from another \$3,900, which, with the \$2,688 provided for expenses on markets for which there would be equivalent receipts, gave a total saving of \$12,700. I hope the saving in the actual expenditure will continue this year. The third matter referred to in the two speeches was what Mr. Gershom Stewart alluded to as the cessation of work on the large reservoir at Tytam Tuk. Probably that was a slip, as the work has never been commenced. The present project is Tytam Tuk No. 1 section which we will complete next year. We will commence Tytam Tuk No. 2 section as soon as we can.

The designs have not been made out, but the detailed estimates and specifications are in hand. It will be time to consider the estimate for the work spoken of next year, but I don't think any time is lost by not including any amount in the estimate for 1906. We might have included a nominal amount, but it was hardly worth while. There was no intention on the part of the Government to shirk that portion. With regard to the water supply at the Peak, the Hon. Mr. Gershom Stewart asks the Director of Public Works to reply to him and I have no doubt that he will do so. I concur with the hon. member that the approaches to the colony are not what they ought to be. I am inclined to look upon the replacing of those matcheds as not so necessary as other work that is provided for in the estimates. With regard to the removal of the Clock Tower which was also referred to by the hon. member representing the Chamber of Commerce on the estimates for last year, I am not certain if there is any real public desire that the clock tower, erected by the community as a monument, should be removed. It is stated to be an impediment to traffic, but I am not certain that it is any real impediment. If I were satisfied there was any real desire to have the old monument removed I should take steps to have it done. The hon. member representing the Chamber of Commerce referred to the urinals on the Praya. I went into the question some months ago with the Director of Public Works. I should like to have them placed underground, as they are in London, but we came to the conclusion that they could not be sufficiently drained if they were sunk.

HON. MR. SHEWAN—Could they not be placed in better positions?

HIS EXCELLENCY—They are where the majority of people are who use them. There is the difficulty about this question that wherever they are placed some one is certain to object to the smells that arise from them. The Hon. Member representing the Chamber of Commerce referred to the small vote for education. It is certainly not a large vote. As I mentioned when addressing the Council a fortnight ago, education is one of the most difficult subjects with which we have to deal in this Colony. Even if we had to spend a much larger sum it is difficult to say how it should be spent. I am considering the subject and possibly may arrive at a solution. It has to be borne in mind we are not educating our own people, but we are educating a fluctuating population mostly subjects of China. With regard to the prevention of Chinese coinage coming into the colony, it will be interesting to have a definite statement from the Chamber which the Hon. Member represents in the matter. Also it will be interesting to the Government to have a definite statement from the Chamber of Commerce on the matter of the registration of Chinese partnerships. The Hon. Mr. Gershom Stewart has correctly interpreted my views on the charity question so that it is unnecessary for me to deal with the matter further. As to stopping the invasion of destitute Europeans, a Bill was passed during our last session which it is hoped will tend to have the desired effect. No proposal was made at the time of the passage of the Bill to make it more drastic than it is. I see there is one point he referred to the D.P.W. I have not dealt with, that of a definite scheme of roads and boulevards in the New Territory and Kowloon. I may say that such a definite scheme as he referred to exists.

HON. MR. SHEWAN—Can it be published?

HIS EXCELLENCY—It may be possible, but it is not desirable to publish it. If the Hon. member will favour me with a visit to my office I will show it to him.

HON. MR. SHEWAN—I think I saw one, sir. One road was on it.

HIS EXCELLENCY—I think that is not the case. The Hon. Member representing the Chamber of Commerce referred to the difficulty in the matter of the price charged by the Government for land.

HON. MR. SHEWAN—For new industries.

HIS EXCELLENCY—For new industries. The general principle with regard to the price the Government charged for land was the market value. If the Government did not sell the land for what it would bring the profit will not go to the general community, but to the individual who purchased it at less, and who sold it at

market value. I think these are all the points brought out by the Hon. Members to which it is necessary for me to reply.

Hon. Mr. SHEWAN—May I be allowed to make one explanation. The instance of stimulating industry to which I referred did not occur under the rule of my hon. friend opposite, Mr. Chatham.

On the question being put, one "No" was heard and His Excellency declared that the "ayes" had it.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—The Bill having been read a second time, I move that it be referred to the Finance Committee.

The COLONIAL TREASURER—I second it. The motion was agreed to.

NEW TERRITORIES LAND ORDINANCE.

The ATTORNEY GENERAL—I beg leave to move that the Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend the New Territories Land Ordinance, 1905, be read a second time. The reasons which lead to the introduction of this Bill are fully set out in the memorandum attached to the Bill, copies of which have been in the hands of Hon. Members for some time. As clearly stated in that memorandum, there are a large number of errors in the schedule attached to the leases of land in the New Territory which it is essential to correct. These errors have arisen from the illiteracy of the Crown lessees who are in large part, but not altogether, peasants. These errors are due in great part to the habit among these people of giving as the name of the lessee the name of some remote ancestor, so that the real name of the living man frequently does not appear on the schedule as it ought to be. Also there has been an omission from the schedule of subsidiary dealings, which have not been recorded by the Land Court owing to lack of information. The object of the Bill is to enable such corrections and additions to be made to the Crown schedules as may be necessary. I move that the Bill be read a second time.

The COLONIAL TREASURER—I second that. The motion was agreed to, and the Council went into committee to consider the Bill in detail.

On the Council resuming,

His EXCELLENCY—I have to report that that Bill passed through committee with one amendment.

MERCHANT SHIPPING ORDINANCE.

The ATTORNEY GENERAL—I propose that the Bill entitled An Ordinance further to amend the Merchant Shipping Ordinance, 1899, and for other purposes be read a third time.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—I second that. The motion was agreed to.

His EXCELLENCY—I move that the Bill entitled An Ordinance further to amend the Merchant Shipping Ordinance, 1899, and for other purposes do pass and become law.

There was no dissent to the proposition which was declared carried.

PROTECTION OF WOMEN.

The ATTORNEY GENERAL—I move that the Bill entitled An Ordinance further to amend the Protection of Women and Girls Ordinance, 1897, be now read a third time.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded.

The motion was agreed to.

SUMMARY OFFENCES.

The ATTORNEY GENERAL—I move that the Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend the Summary Offences Ordinance, 1845, be read a third time.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded.

The motion was agreed to.

MAINTENANCE OF MARRIED WOMEN.

The ATTORNEY GENERAL—I move that the Council resolve itself into Committee to consider the Bill entitled An Ordinance relating to the Summary Jurisdiction of Magistrates in reference to married women.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

On the Council resuming,

His EXCELLENCY—I have to report to the Council that the Bill entitled An Ordinance relating to the Summary Jurisdiction of Magistrates in reference to Married Women has passed through committee with amendments.

His EXCELLENCY—The Council stands adjourned till Thursday, 28th September, at 2.30.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was held immediately after the Council, the Colonial Secretary presiding. The following votes were passed.

BOTANICAL AND AFFORESTATION DEPARTMENT.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of three hundred and thirty-six dollars (\$336) in aid of the vote, Botanical and Afforestation department,—other charges, maintenance of gardens and grounds, for cost of repairing the damages done by the recent typhoons and rainstorms.

MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of seven thousand five hundred dollars (\$7,500) in aid of the vote, 22 miscellaneous services, for the following items:—

Other miscellaneous services	... \$ 500
Refunds of revenue	... 7,000

Total... \$7,500

PUBLIC WORKS EXTRAORDINARY.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of one hundred and fifty dollars (\$150) in aid of the vote, Public Works Extraordinary, for the following:—

Miscellaneous Works—

Converting a room in the Stanley Police Station into a drying room and fitting up a drying store in the room	... \$ 30
Erecting a small match shed on the ground in front of the Station	... 120

Total... \$150

SANITARY EXPENSES.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250) in aid of the vote, Sanitary Department—other charges, incidental expenses, for printing 125 copies of the new edition of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance, 1903.

EDUCATIONAL CHARGES.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of sixty-nine dollars and twenty-seven cents (\$69.27) in aid of the vote, Education—other charges, Victoria British School, Furniture.

THE ESTIMATES FOR 1906.

The Committee then considered the Bill referred to them by the Council.

On the treasury vote,

The Hon. Mr. SHEWAN moved that the sum of \$3,000 in connection with the Widows and Orphans Fund be deleted. That item ought to be left out until the provision of the Widow and Orphans Fund had been passed.

The ATTORNEY GENERAL—You need not press that, because if the proposed Bill is not passed by this Council the vote fails.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY.—It does not follow the money will be spent.

Hon. Mr. SHEWAN—No but we might be told afterwards that we had passed it.

The motion was put and the CHAIRMAN declared that the "ayes" had it.

Hon. Mr. SHEWAN challenged a division.

Seven voted against the amendment and six in its favour.

The original motion was then carried.

WATER SUPPLY.

The Hon. DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS answered the questions put by the Hon. Mr. Gershom Stewart. With regard to No. 1, he said there was a constant supply of water during 313 days in 1899, 352 in 1900, 365 in 1901, 160 in 1902, 228 in 1903, and 187 in 1904. The next question was what progress has been made with rider mains and what saving it is estimated will ensue. The answer is: The rider mains have been laid in about half of the intended districts and it is estimated that the saving will be not less than a million gallons per year. The third question referred to the water for flushing tanks. It is impossible to say what quantity will be used but it is intended to supply the tanks from the streams that the hon. gentleman said he was so sorry to see running to waste down the hillside, and the tanks will be filled according to the state of the tide. There will be abundance of fresh water for the purpose.

The enacting clause of the Finance Bill was approved, and the Committee was adjourned.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held on the 19th September at the Board Room. Hon. Dr. F. Clark (President) presided, and there were also present: Major Josling, Dr. W. W. Pearse, M.O.H., Mr. E. Irving, Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., and Mr. A. Rumjahn.

KOWLOON ODOURS.

The Government's reply to the Board's recommendations with regard to this question was as follows:—With reference to the recommendations of the Sanitary Board relating to the mitigation of certain nuisances in Kowloon, and submitted by the President in a minute dated the 6th instant, the reclamation of part of Hung Hom Bay is under the consideration of the Government, and in the meantime the extension of the sewer out-falls will be put in hand as soon as funds can be made available. The reconstruction of the street gullies in Kowloon will be undertaken as soon as those in Victoria have been replaced by gullies of the new type. With regard to the report of insufficient latrine and urinal accommodation near Tsimchatsoi Point, a urinal is in course of construction there; and the Board is asked to suggest a site for a latrine which would be convenient and at the same time not likely to cause offence, and so result in a petition for its removal as soon as it commences to be used. The Board should communicate with the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, who employ a very large proportion of the coolies working at Tsimchatsoi Point, with regard to the provision of ample urinal and latrine accommodation for these coolies within their premises, and as far as possible from the public thoroughfares. His Excellency has noted the first resolution passed by the Board at their meeting held on the 22nd August re manuring of gardens near public highways, and will be glad to receive a report at the end of the year as to how far the instructions issued to the Board's officers have proved effectual in mitigating the offensive odours arising from these gardens.

The PRESIDENT—The Government asks that the Board should recommend a site for a latrine at Tsimchatsoi Point. I move that the matter be referred to the M.O.H. to report on, and recommend a site.

Mr. Pollock seconded the motion, to which the members present agreed.

KOWLOON CONSERVANCY CONTRACT.

The scavenging and conservancy contract for Kowloon for 1906-1907 was considered in committee, when several amendments were made.

On the Board resuming, the PRESIDENT moved that the conditions of the contract as amended in committee be adopted and forwarded to the Governor for his approval.

Mr. POLLOCK seconded and the motion was carried.

WATER ANALYSIS.

Mr. Frank Brown, Government analyst, reported that the result of his analysis proved that the water was of excellent quality.

MORTALITY STATISTICS.

The percentage of deaths for the week ending 26th August, death rate per 1,000 per annum, was 29.5 as against 17.8 for the corresponding week of last year. This percentage was of the British, foreign and Chinese community, excluding the navy and army.

LIMEWASHING.

For the fortnight ending 12th September 4,412 houses were limewashed in the eastern and 3,534 in the central district.

BAT RETURN.

For the week ending 9th September 516 rats were caught, of which 26 were found to be infected. 23 out of the 584 rats caught for the week ending 16th instant were infected.

Referring to our recent comments on the appreciated value of property belonging to public companies in Hongkong, the *Japan Chronicle* says:—Our contemporary might have also adduced the case of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, which for years has pursued the policy of writing down its property account. While this is in one way a laudable policy, yet it certainly has the defect of concealing rather than disclosing the actual position of a public company.

SUPREME COURT.

Monday 18th September.

IN CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

FORGING A WILL.

Lai Sui Shi was charged with forging the will of Li Tai Hing, deceased, on the 10th July.

In this, as in the following cases, the Attorney-General, Sir H. S. Berkeley, K.C., instructed by Mr. Morrell, of the Crown Solicitor's office, prosecuted.

When asked to plead, prisoner said that on the day the will was presented she knew it was a forgery, but she forged it at the instigation of a man named Ah Hong.

His Lordship (to the court interpreter)—Ask her if she has anything to say why sentence should not be passed on her.

Prisoner—I had nothing to eat; neither did the other wife.

His Lordship—But the other wife gave evidence against you.

Prisoner—My husband died sometime in the first moon, and Lau Won Luk took possession of his business.

His Lordship (to the Attorney-General)—Did she get any money out of court?

The Attorney-General—She got nothing; the complaining concubine says deceased left a lot of bad debts.

His Lordship—I should think she was put up to this by somebody; I don't think she would do it herself. (To the interpreter) Tell her that for what she has done she is liable to be imprisoned for life with hard labour.

Prisoner—Somebody taught me to do it.

His Lordship—The procedure of the court cannot be upset by people taking out probate on forged wills. The accused will go to prison for three months without hard labour.

MANSLAUGHTER.

Lam Pui was indicted on the charge of killing and slaying one, Choi Kwong, at West Point on the 18th August.

Prisoner admitted the charge, but said he did not intend to kill the deceased. He asked his Lordship not to pass a heavy sentence.

His Lordship—Relate the facts of the case.

Prisoner—Deceased threw a stone at me, which struck me on the eye. Then I struck him, giving him four or five blows. That is all I have to say.

His Lordship—The story the prisoner told before coincides with the evidence given. It appears he and the deceased had a quarrel, and that deceased struck him first. He then retaliated in such a manner that deceased died as a consequence of his injuries. I thoroughly understand there had been no previous quarrel. It was a sudden one, and prisoner used his fist only as a weapon. I also understand that deceased suffered from an enlarged spleen which rendered it very easy to rupture. These are all the circumstances I need take into consideration.

Addressing the interpreter, his Lordship said—Tell the prisoner the policy of the law is that one man cannot take another man's life except under provocation which is so serious that it makes the homicide justifiable; or under circumstances which I might almost call privileged. None of these conditions are present in this case. Prisoner went too far and must suffer the penalty. Four months' imprisonment with hard labour.

ROBBERY WITH VIOLENCE.

Kung Fat was charged with that on the 14th August, at Gun Club Hill, Kowloon, he feloniously did assault and rob one, Lo On, of a watch, silver chain and umbrella.

Prisoner pleaded not guilty and the following were empanelled as a jury:—Chan Hewan, E. A. Meirer, F. Hoggard, R. B. Cooper, A. J. Pugh, J. T. Whealy and J. H. Ritchie.

The Attorney-General in informing the jury of the facts of the case stated that on the 14th of last month Lo On was on his way to pay a visit to a relation who was employed at the rifle range at Gun Club Hill. When he was half-way up the hill he saw the prisoner gesticulating to him, and then heard him shout—"Come up here and see this." Curiosity

apparently got the better of Lo On, who, instead of going on to see his uncle, turned aside to see what the prisoner had to show. As soon as he got within proper distance of the prisoner he was attacked, knocked down, badly used, made unconscious and robbed of a watch and other property. When he regained consciousness he found himself lying in a ravine close by, and that the prisoner had gone. Later in the day prisoner was arrested on another charge, and on being searched a pawn ticket was found in his pocket which led to the discovery of Lo On's watch; and later his umbrella was also found.

After hearing the evidence the jury returned a verdict of guilty, and his Lordship, in passing sentence, said the prisoner must be kept from the community for some time. He would be imprisoned for seven years with hard labour, and receive 24 strokes of the birch.

Tuesday, 19th September.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

THE MAN LI WO KEE-V. KUI WO.

The plaintiffs claimed from the defendant the sum of \$205.47 balance due for work done, particulars whereof had been supplied.

Mr. Otto Kong Sing appeared for the plaintiffs.

The defendant did not appear, but the Court Interpreter informed his Lordship that he had paid \$150 odd into court, the amount he admitted owing the plaintiffs.

His Lordship decided to go on with the case, which Wong Lui Kee was called to prove.

Judgment was given for the plaintiffs with costs.

THE WING CHEUNG LI v. TANG KING TSUN AND ANOTHER.

This was a claim by the plaintiffs from the defendants, as partners in the Ching Wo Bakery, late of No. 5 Peel Street, for the sum of \$711.60, balance due by the said bakery to the plaintiffs on an account stated between them: in the alternative the plaintiffs claimed the like sum for the balance of the price of goods bargained and sold by the plaintiffs to the said Ching Wo Bakery.

Mr. R. Harding (of Messrs. Ewens, Harston and Harding) appeared for the plaintiffs, and Mr. C. F. Dixon (of Mr. J. Hastings' office) represented their defendants.

Mr. Dixon applied to his Lordship for a postponement of the trial. He had written to the plaintiffs' solicitor about a fortnight ago for particulars of the account as alleged on the statement of claim, and it was only last Friday that the particulars had been supplied him. He had seen his clients, but they had not had an opportunity of going into the account, which was of a rather complicated nature. Until they had gone into it they were not in a position to defend this action.

His Lordship—May I look at the account?

Mr. Harding—Yes, my Lord. It is a very simple account, and particulars were furnished on Friday.

Mr. Dixon—The claim is for goods sold and delivered. The account seems to be made up of a series of gambling speculations between the defendants and the plaintiffs.

Mr. Harding—My friend is wrong. The claim is not for goods sold and delivered, but for goods bargained and sold.

His Lordship—Bargained and sold, I don't know what that means.

Mr. Dixon—Will your Lordship grant my application?

His Lordship—Why?

Mr. Dixon—Because particulars of the account were not furnished until Friday.

His Lordship—And this is Tuesday.

Mr. Dixon—Yes. But Saturday afternoon and Sunday were holidays.

His Lordship—But you can work on Sundays. I work on Sunday, and on the last Sabbath read all my criminal sessions evidence.

Mr. Dixon—I saw my friend yesterday and he declined to grant an adjournment.

His Lordship—What is your objection to going on?

Mr. Dixon—My client has not yet had an opportunity of going into this account. He

does not even admit that he has paid the amount credited him.

His Lordship—The case must go on. The defendant has had heaps of time to see the account. Besides, it is getting very close to the vacation.

After hearing the evidence his Lordship gave judgment for the first defendant, who had retired from the partnership, with costs, and judgment against the second defendant with costs.

Wednesday, 20th September.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

THE SANG KEE v. THE LAU SIK YING.

The Sang Kee Bank, of No. 171, Queen's Road Central, claimed from the Lau Sik Ying firm, traders, of No. 51, Hollywood Road, the sum of \$595, being as to \$500 principal money lent, and as to \$95 interest thereon at the rate of \$1 per \$100 per mensem, and due by the defendants under a promissory note dated 13th February.

Mr. C. F. Dixon (of Mr. John Hastings' office) appeared for the plaintiffs, the defendants being unrepresented.

Chu Kau, manager of the Sang Kee Bank, proved the debt, and his Lordship gave judgment for the plaintiffs with costs.

THE FOOK TAI CHEONG FIRM v. HO SUI.

The plaintiffs, contractors of No. 16, Peel Street, claimed from the defendant the sum of \$103.14, being as to \$58.14 balance due for work done and material supplied as per account rendered, and as to \$45 for money paid by the plaintiffs to the Yik Tai firm for painting and limewashing done on the defendant's behalf, and at his request.

Mr. R. F. C. Master (of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master) appeared for the plaintiffs. The defendant was not represented.

The defendant admitted owing an amount of \$93.63, but claimed a set-off, which, when paid would leave a balance due to him.

His Lordship adjourned the case until Friday in order that an examination of the books of the parties to the action might be made.

CANTON.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

LIBERAL GIFT.

Canton, 15th September.

Yu Hung Yan, proprietor of a well-known local dispensary called the Kwong Chi Koon, has sent the following presents to Viceroy Shum for charitable purposes, viz:—Of Yu Shing and Kam Lo tea, each, 10,000 small packets, of Yu Yee Yan and Hang Kwan Yan, each, 10,000 bottles. His Excellency gave orders to the Chief Superintendent of Police to distribute them among the army, military, and naval colleges and the police force. Yesterday the Viceroy sent a tablet to the Kwong Chi Koon, through the President of the Chamber of Commerce, bearing these characters 克承先志, meaning "able to carry out the will of his forefather."

INTRODUCTION OF GIRLS' SCHOOLS.

Viceroy Shum has received a telegram from Peking saying that in an audience granted by the Empress Dowager to His Excellency Tuan Fong, that "intelligent official" recommended the establishment of public schools in all the provinces for the education of girls. The Empress Dowager was delighted with the novel suggestion and gave her sanction to the excellent recommendation. She commanded the Cabinet to send telegraphic instructions to the Viceroys of all the provinces to establish beneficial institutions as soon as possible.

CLOSING JAPANESE COFFEE HOUSES.

Some time ago several of the local gentry petitioned Viceroy Shum complaining of the existence of numerous so-called Japanese coffee shops in the city, which were regarded as demoralising agencies. He Excellency communicated with the Japanese Consul of Hong-kong and requested him to order them to be immediately closed. The Japanese Consul

approved and complied. Recently several of these shops have re-opened, and yesterday the Nam Hoi Magistrate deputed an officer with a dozen braves to close them.

CANTON-HANKOW RAILWAY.

The Peking Government has telegraphed to Viceroy Shum and Chang Chih Tung as follows:—We have redeemed the Canton and Hankow Railway to complete this gigantic line ourselves. Funds should be raised without delay to commence the work at once. If this matter is not taken up in earnest we are afraid that the people may change their minds.

A BOYCOTT INCIDENT.

A big teashop in Sai Nam purchased a large quantity of very cheap American flour shortly before the Moon Festival. The proprietor of the shop was delighted with his bargain and expected a handsome return from "moon cakes." His cakes went like smoke in the market as they were sold much cheaper than his competitors. Unfortunately, two days before the festival, one of his rivals published the reason for the low prices, and the news spread like wild fire. Hundreds of people went to the teashop and demanded the return of their money. The shop was practically ruined.

ALLEGED SEVERITY BY I. M. CUSTOMS.

I was informed this morning that the Commissioners of Customs here had cancelled the Inland Navigation Certificate of the Portuguese Steamer *Lucia* and told her agents that the vessel will not be permitted to trade any more in Chinese waters. These apparently high handed measures were taken, it is stated, on account of a very slight infringement of the Customs regulations. It appears that the s.s. *Lucia* cleared for Sui Tung and Lui Chow on the 14th instant with permission from the Customs to tow a junk loaded with implements and gear to save the Italian steamer *Dominico* at Ni Wok Island. The junk was lying at Nam Kwan (southern suburb of the city). This was the place where all the Sui Tung steamers used to anchor. About two months ago the Customs issued a new regulation forbidding steamers to anchor at Nam Kwan and ordering them to anchor at the Ho Nam Spit. At about 5 p.m. on that day the *Lucia* left her moorings (Ho Nam Spit) and proceeded to Nam Kwan to tow the junk. When she got there the master of the junk informed the captain of the *Lucia* that the junk was unable to leave yet, as only part of the salving gear had been brought on board, and as there was a difficulty about obtaining coolies, owing to the moon festival. The Portuguese captain, who had only lately been on the river run and was not aware of all the Harbour regulations, anchored the steamer alongside of the junk that night. A Customs officer on river duty boarded her during the night and, according to my informant, took all her papers away. On the following morning (15th instant) the agents sent a man to get the ship's papers from the Customs and was told by the Deputy Commissioner of Customs that they had already been cancelled. It is said that this is the first Portuguese merchantman that has traded in these waters. The offence was not only a small one but was the first one committed by the present owner of the vessel. Surely, if all the facts are as stated, a monetary fine would have been amply sufficient to deter him from repeating it. I think, *prima facie*, it is hardly fair that the owner should be punished in such a severe manner by the Customs authorities for a technical offence. I hear since that the owner has communicated with the Portuguese Government in the matter.

Canton, 18th September.

BOYCOTT.

On the 15th instant the boycott committee here announced that they received a cable remittance of three thousand dollars through the Russo-Chinese Bank from their countrymen in San Francisco. It is said that since the commencement of the boycott in Canton the Cantonese people in America have remitted over thirty thousand dollars.

COUNTERFEIT COINS AND MACHINERY.

Recently the authorities of the Fa Yuen district received information that a certain man in the Shek Wo village of that district had been manufacturing counterfeit coins to the extent of several hundred dollars every day.

The Fa Yuen Magistrate deputed an officer with twenty braves to visit the house, where they seized eight pieces of machinery for stamping coins and a considerable quantity of counterfeit money. They also arrested several men, one of whom, named Tong Sik Tong, was supposed to be the owner of the house. The prisoners were all brought to Canton yesterday and will shortly be tried by the Poon Yü Magistrate.

A GRATIFYING HONGKONG PRODUCT.

The recent severe illness of the Viceroy has been the occasion amongst the people of calling to mind the work he has accomplished since he succeeded the weak-kneed Pak San, but from the foreigners' point of view Viceroy Shum has certainly owed his reputation to the ability with which he has been assisted by his chief interpreter and foreign deputy Taotai Wen Tsung Yao. Although not educated abroad Mr. Wen has displayed a thorough knowledge of foreign affairs and is an honour to the Queen's College of Hongkong, where he acquired his education. His post, which brings him into close and constant touch with the head of the Two Kwang, is far from being a sinecure, as besides his duties as adviser for foreign affairs he fills several other onerous positions, such as Director of the Canton-Hankow Railway, Director of the Imperial Chinese Telegraphs, Director of the Telephone, Inspector General of Schools and Colleges, and Acting President of the Cheong Pin Hok Tong (military college for the training of officers). And in all his duties he has proved himself an official of uncommon and varied ability. Mr. Wen is a proof that where there is the material and genius the Government College of Hongkong can give a man a training fit for the highest spheres of life. Much of his work is little known, as for instance the settlement of the serious Amoy railway trouble between the Chinese and the Japanese, which was a cause of much anxiety in high official circles owing to the murder of several Japanese subjects connected with the building of the line; and the more recent arrangement with the Canton Electric Light Company in which he proved he was as thoroughly at home in figures as in diplomatic affairs. With his long list of cumulative appointments, one would scarcely believe that Taotai Wen has barely turned thirty. He is equally popular amongst the Chinese and foreigners, is a hard worker as may be expected, and is especially noted for his modest character. Foreigners have pleasure in dealing with an official of such progressive mind, and if China possessed many men of this type she would rapidly lose her reputation of a backward, ignorant and arrogant nation.

Canton, 20th September.

THE ALLEGED SEVERITY BY I. M. CUSTOMS: "LUCIA'S" PAPERS RETURNED AND A FINE IMPOSED.

I have since been informed that on the afternoon of the 15th instant the Portuguese Consul's chief clerk here had an interview with the commissioner of Customs regarding the Inland Navigation papers of the *Lucia* and entreated him to impose a fine and grant the return of the papers to the vessel. At about 4 p.m. on the same day the captain of the *Lucia* called at the Portuguese Consulate and reported that the Customs had returned the ship's papers to him, and imposed a fine of ten taels for breach of harbour regulations.

DARING DAYLIGHT ROBBERY.

At noon on the 19th instant seven robbers entered a house No. 81 Kong Nga Lane Western Suburbs) occupied by a wealthy man surnamed Sun. They drove all the inmates of the house into a room and locked them up. After this they ransacked the premises and took away over ten thousand taels worth of jewellery and money. The robbers were all armed with revolvers, and one of the women who offered some resistance received a very severe cut on her head by the butt end of a revolver. The matter was reported to the Chief Police Station in Wall-d City. None of the robbers have been arrested yet, but the police are very active.

INCREASE OF NAVAL FORCE.

Owing to the inadequacy of the naval force to suppress pirates and bandits in the Kwangtung Province, Admiral Li Tsun has recruited 1,500 men for the navy. He has divided them

into three divisions of 500 men each and has appointed a commander to each division. Yesterday the Sin-Hau Kuk forwarded three seals to the admiral to be distributed among the three officers commanding those divisions.

VICEROY'S NEW SEAL.

Sometime ago Viceroy Shum petitioned the Cabinet at Peking requesting them to cast a new seal bearing the following words:—"Viceroy of the two Kwang with full power to administer affairs of the Kwangtung Governor." It is said that the Throne has sanctioned the seal to be made and that it will arrive here shortly.

PETITION BOX.

The new Nam Hoi, Chan Pak Hau, intends to introduce a novel way for people to send in their petitions to him.

Two letter boxes will be placed at the entrance of his yamen. These boxes will be locked and he will go personally to open the boxes and take the contents out every day. He believes that it is the best system to prevent his clerks and yamen runners from delaying or suppressing any petitions or letters of complaint against any of his subordinates which may be sent to him. All petitions posted in the boxes must be stamped by the chop of a substantial shop or guaranteed by a "Ti Pou."

A BIG SAVING.

It is said that Viceroy Shum took the trouble to reckon what amount could be saved through the abolition of the Kwangtung Governor's position, and that after going carefully into the figures he discovered that he is able to save over 20,000 taels annually for the Province.

CORRESPONDENCE.

NORWAY AND SWEDEN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 20th September.

DEAR SIR.—I have received a cable from Christiania, dated 10.30 a.m. yesterday, to the effect that a compromise has been entered into between Norway and Sweden, by which Norway, while retaining the old historical forts at Fredrikstad and Kongsvinger agrees that parts of the new fortifications, erected since 1895, should not be kept. On the other hand Sweden pledges herself to build no fortifications on her side of the border, a neutral zone being agreed upon. This compromise being consistent with the honour and safety of both parties, has created a sincere feeling of relief in both countries, and it is to be hoped that mutual trust will soon take place, as the two nations have nothing to gain by a war, but everything to lose.—Your faithfully,

BJARNE AAGAARD.

RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING WOMEN AND GIRLS' REFUGES.

The following rules and regulations, made by the Governor-in-Council under Section 47 of the Protection of Women and Girls Ordinance No. 4 of 1897, are published in the Government Gazette:—(1). The home provided by Po Leung Kuk under the Po Leung Kuk Incorporation Ordinance, 1893, shall be a place of refuge in which the Registrar General may order a woman or girl to be detained under Sections 34 and 35 of the Protection of Women and Girls Ordinance, 1897. (2). The institution known as the Italian Convent and as Miss Eyre's Refuge shall also be held to be places of refuge under the last mentioned Ordinance. (3). No woman or girl sent to a place of refuge shall leave or attempt to leave the same without the written order of the Registrar General, or escape or attempt to escape, whilst being conducted to or from the said place of refuge. (4). No woman or girl detained in a place of refuge shall behave in a disorderly or noisy manner. (5). Every woman or girl detained in a place of refuge shall obey all lawful orders and commands of the persons in charge of the said place of refuge and of the matron, teachers

and others persons placed in control of the inmates. (6.) No woman or girl detained in a place of refuge shall communicate or attempt to communicate with any person except with the approval of the persons in charge of the said place of refuge. (7.) The matron with the approval of the committee of the Po Leung Kuk, and the managers of places of refuge other than the Po Leung Kuk, may direct the women and girls in the Po Leung Kuk, or such other places of refuge respectively to wash clothes and cook and do other domestic work, and every inmate of the Po Leung Kuk or such other place of refuge shall perform such work when so directed. (8.) Any woman or girl in the Po Leung Kuk who disobeys any of these regulations, for the first offence may be confined in a room by the matron for a period not exceeding one day. Such punishment shall be recorded and reported to the committee of the Po Leung Kuk. In case of repeated disobedience and recalcitrancy, the matron may report the case to the said committee, who may order the offender to be confined in a dark cell for any period not exceeding 24 hours. A record shall be kept of such punishment. (9.) The managers of places of refuge other than the Po Leung Kuk shall have the power to inflict punishments similar to those provided in regulation 8. A record shall be kept of all punishments inflicted.

A GRIFFIN AND A WAIL.

The following letter appears in the *N. C. Daily News* :—

Sir,—Reading one of your contemporaries a few days ago, I was struck by some very severe remarks about the "Griffins of To-day."

I feel called upon to state the facts of the case as I have found them, and herewith ask you for a small space in your paper.

"Look here," says the chief of the firm in London to the young man who applies for a job in the Shanghai branch: "We shall give you a free passage and a salary of \$2,200, \$2,400, and \$2,600" (which is a salary I know to be frequently paid) "during the three years of your contract. As you will know, a dollar is about two shillings. Of course living is a little dearer out there but you will find that this salary is quite sufficient. By-the-bye, most of the young chaps who live a little economically, and do not waste their money, save quite a nice little sum."

That is what the taipan says and the youngster is very pleased with his prospects. He always managed to get along well enough with his £120 a year and there could be no earthly reason why he should not do so with double the sum.

He, therefore, signs the contract and already begins to picture himself coming home at least a millionaire.

When he arrives in Shanghai, he at first has to look for a place in which to live, and as it is very difficult to find private board and lodging, he has to go to a boarding-house. He is highly disgusted when the landlady tells him the price of a room, which is not even facing south, is \$90 per mensem!

"You can keep your own boy, if you like," says the kind old lady, "but if you prefer to avoid the expense of \$10-12 a month, my servants will, of course, attend to you. In this case I have to charge you \$5 a month." He soon finds out that a box of coals costs 40 cents, and liquid refreshment for which he paid 31. at home is not less than 25 cents.

Unless he is content with himself as company (and who is?), he asks a friend to put him up for the club. He nearly faints when he is told that the entrance fee is \$100, and the monthly subscription not less than \$10. Where shall he find that money?

"Oh," says the amiable friend, "don't bother. There is not the least difficulty about that. What have you got a compradore for? He will advance you the money and you pay it off by-and-by."

"He is a very clever institution, the compradore," thinks the young man, and is in debt already.

Now, if you are a member of a club, you want to go there some times; chat a little with your friends, make some new acquaintances, and have a drink.

But, alas! how expensive are the drinks! He cannot get one without having "a shake" with

the other fellows. He hardly ever saw a dice-box in his life and is soon "taken in." Instead of paying for one sherry he has to pay for five.

"No," says the well-principled young man to himself: "No, if I go on like that I will soon be 'stone-broke.'"

So all he takes now are four whiskys-and-soda a day, i.e. \$21 a month for his drinks.

"What a wonderful young man he is." I already hear my readers say, who usually have a club-bill of at least \$50. But though the perspiration is running down his face on a day with 100 degrees F. in the shade and he would like to have a bucketful of drinks, he never takes anything more or less than four whiskys-and-soda a day, one with his tiffin, one at dinner-time and two at night.

What self-control, what admirable self-denial! I really should like to make his acquaintance myself and have a look at this charming young man.

He is a smoker of course. Who does not smoke? He smokes a very cheap cigar—\$3 a box of 100, and on an average he finishes two boxes a month.

After a short time the doctor tells him: "My dear friend, if you go on sitting at home as you do, and if you take no exercise, you will soon be in hospital. I can tell you. Buy a pony, have a good long ride every morning. You must do something for your health."

The young man falls one step back. Is the doctor mad? Did he hear right? Did that man really say to him: "Buy a pony?" To him!

"I beg your pardon, doctor," he stammers, "but do you know perhaps anybody who is going to sell a pony for, say, \$5? I really can't afford more." "Well than, play cricket, tennis, or something else," says the doctor, and so the young man joins the cricket club, and it costs him his entrance fee and probably another \$5 or \$10 a month.

What a good old man his compradore is!

When the summer is coming, he has to buy white or flannel suits. He requires about a dozen of them. Very likely he takes white duck as it is cheaper, and he has to pay \$5 each, i.e. \$60. If that were only all! There are hundreds of things he must have which he did not anticipate when buying his outfit at home. Flannel trousers, thin tennis shirts, white shoes and boots, sun-helmets and goodness knows what else. Can he pay that from his monthly salary? Not half of it! Where does he get the money from? From the compradore, of course!

Twice a month our friend goes to the theatre or to a concert, and twice he takes a carriage and rides out to the Point or to the Pagoda. That is all he will allow himself, and that is little enough, but it costs \$12 a month.

He would like to have a houseboat-trip up-country or go to the Saddles during the hot days, but he has got no money for that.

He calculates and calculates, but always gets the same result:—

- \$ 90. Board and Lodging.
- 5—Attendance.
- 10.—Club monthly subscription.
- 20.—Club chits.
- 6.—Cigars.
- 12.—Ricsba.
- 5.—Washing.
- 3.—Chemist.
- 15.—Clothing.
- 12.—Carriage Hire, Theatre, Concerts, &c.
- 5.—Pettries.
- 5.—Contribution to a Sporting Club.

\$183

not one cent left. Moreover he is about \$200 to \$300 in debt to the compradore who advanced him the entrance fee for the Club, and money for summer clothing, etc.

I hope the young chap will never get a tooth-ache out here in the East and have to consult a dentist. He may easily get rid of half his monthly pay there. And there are still other places where that can happen to him, but I will not talk about that, nor put a sum down in the account for it.

One day he takes his cash-book where he has entered every cent he has spent, walks into the taipan's room, and modestly asks him to enlighten him how to save money, "which is so easily done," as he was told in London.

The taipan does not point that out to him, but simply says: "My young friend, when I came out to China, I had but \$100 a month and—". And now the taipan goes on talking for at least half-an-hour, is full of self-praise, but hardly mentions that living is more than twice as expensive to-day as, says, 15 years ago. If the saving "bonus" does not come and help him the young man will soon get into debt, with the usual consequences.

Who's fault is it now, Sir? I hope you have changed your mind about the "Griffins of To-day."

I am, etc.,

ANOTHER GRIFFIN.

13th September.

KWANG ROBBERS.

An important telegram has been received from Ping-Ngok Fu, Kwangsi, to the effect that a large gang of bad characters has made a sudden appearance in Ho-Hsien, of Ping-Ngok Fu, pillaging the surrounding villages and inviting the people to join them by force or by threat. The well-to-do citizens are also compelled to bribe them by providing provisions, otherwise they would be robbed and murdered. The mob is threatening the city of He Hsien and the Prefect of Ping Ngok Fu has sent, in reply to the request of the magistrate of the former, the garrison of the latter to the scene. The Canton authorities are asked to send reinforcements thither at once. The report that the banditti seized the city of Shek-Shing-Hsien, in the province of Kiangsi, north of Kwangtung, is somewhat exaggerated. The Taotai of Cheung-Nam reports that a Shan Tsoi (i.e. B.A. degree) surnamed Man was arrested sometime ago and sentenced to two years' imprisonment charged with making squeezes and bullying other people. The clansmen of the prisoner, numbering several hundred, climbed over the wall of Shek-Shing-Hsien and broke into the prison one night. They succeeded in releasing the prisoner, after shooting one of the guards. Two other important prisoners also took the opportunity to make good their escape, hence the rumour that the city fell into the hands of the rebels.—*Chung Ngai San Po.*

AN ADMIRABLE CHINESE "OLLENDORF."

We have received (says the *N. C. Daily News*) a little pamphlet of nineteen pages, Part III. of a series arranged according to the Gonin system, by Roy Scott Anderson, of Soochow University. Mr. Anderson is not only an educationist but a humorist as well, and some of his lessons are amusing. The following for instance sets out the story of "a young man who wants to be an official":—

- His father is very rich.
- He is proud of his son.
- He goes to Peking.
- He buys the rank of a District Magistrate.
- The boy is proud of his rank.
- He must leave his native province.
- He goes to Hunan.
- He waits for years.
- There is no vacancy.
- Soon his father dies.
- The son receives the whole estate.
- He mourns for his father three years.
- He sends \$30,000.00 up to the throne.
- They immediately make a vacancy.
- He becomes an active official.
- He gives the throne another \$100,000.00.
- He is then given the position of Shanghai Taotai.
- He acts as Taotai three years.
- He has added \$600,000. to his estate.
- Then he retires on account of bad health.

CONVERSATION.

- A. Do you know Chang?
- B. Yes, I have known him a long time.
- A. He is now Shanghai Taotai.
- B. That man is always having good luck.
- A. I am sure he'll get as much out of it as possible.
- B. Yes they say he made \$50,000.00 during the first three months.

A CHINESE MARRIAGE.

The hearing of the charge preferred against Oldorico Antony Nerees, a Portuguese sign-man employed on Green Isle, by Tsing Pong, for harbouring a married woman, named Man Li Kwai, contrary to the law of China, was resumed.

Inspector Langley prosecuted and Mr. P. W. Goldring appeared for the defendant.

Discussion took place at the outset as to the meaning of "marriage in China," which his Lordship held to include Hongkong.

Complainant, recalled, gave evidence of his marriage with the woman in question and deposed to receiving bridal presents. Defendant frequently went to his (witness) mother-in-law's house, where he saw his wife.

Mr. Goldring said it was not disputed that defendant and the woman were living together since June 27th.

Complainant, under cross examination, said the woman's mother and his mother lived opposite. During the time the woman lived with him she co-habited with defendant. She admitted so herself. He denied sending her out to earn money for him or tying her up and beating her. His wife left him on March 4th without any warning but he did not know where she went. He did not know why she ran away. He had friction with her because of defendant, but he only remonstrated with her in a friendly manner. He took steps to find his wife but could not find her. He reported to the Registrar in February that defendant and his wife had been intimate and the Registrar said he would make inquiries. A week later he went with the woman to see Mr. Brewin. At first she denied misconduct. She ran away on March 4th. Complainant denied that there was another woman living in the house with him at that time. His wife was sixteen years old when he married her.

Mr. Goldring said his line of defence was that there was another woman in the house to whom complainant was married, and that in these circumstances the woman in question could not be his wife.

Complainant denied that this other woman's relatives quarrelled with Man Li Kwai and that that was the cause of the trouble. He reported to the Registrar General that she was in a convent but though he knew the convent was paying for her keep he did not know where she was from 13th May to 1st September. He dared not go to the convent to inquire, but he suspected defendant was paying for her. At the time his wife left him defendant was employed by the Sanitary Board and he informed the head officer of defendant's relations with his wife. Complainant left the police force at the time of his marriage in 1898. He was dismissed for sleeping when on duty.

An Fung Sun, a Chinese clerk in the Registrar's office, testified that the document produced was used in reference to Chinese marriages. The document in question was about ten years old.

Under cross-examination witness said that the document was similar to those exchanged among educated people at marriages in the country. Other documents were used but not of the same size. The document alluded to was such as a constable in Hongkong would use, that was provided he was getting a proper wife. If a wife found another married woman in her husband's household she could throw up the contract.

Mr. Goldring said he had a weird sort of document with all sorts of scribbling on it. This was the correspondence from the woman's father.

THE CANTON-HANKOW RAILWAY.

A N. C. Daily News telegram from Peking, 10th September, says:—

With regard to the sum of over Tls. 6,400,000 which has to be paid to Mr. Pierpont Morgan and others, to enable China to take back the concession for the Yuch-Han railway, it is stated that only the sum of Tls. 3,500,000 has been raised in Kuangtung, Hunan, and Hupeh provinces. The Chinese Government has therefore decided to borrow the balance, Tls. 3,000,000, from Great Britain, and the agreement has already been signed.

THE SINKING OF THE
"MIKASA."

[WRITTEN FOR THE "DAILY PRESS," BY
"WAVING PLUME"]

The reports published up to the present of this terrible disaster to the Japanese Navy leave the cause of the foundering of the Japanese Flagship a complete mystery to those accustomed to and intimately acquainted with the construction and working of battleships of modern times. The statement is made that the Mikasa caught fire, that eventually the flames got the upper hand and that the vessel ultimately sank after the magazines had exploded. In the first place it must be remembered that, to avoid the chance of being set on fire by the explosion of shell during a sea-fight, there is practically no inflammable material on board excepting the ordinary stores of food, etc., men's clothing, fuel in the bunkers and, of course, the ammunition itself. Everything is of steel, even to the furniture, in the latest ships. Wood is entirely left out of the construction. It will be remembered how, the morning after the Japanese first torpedo attack on Port Arthur, the Russians emptied all their inflammable materials overboard even to chairs and tables. Fire is the greatest enemy during an engagement and coping with outbreaks of fire is the practice most frequently carried out at all drills and evolution. The moment a local outbreak occurs there is the local fire party ready to extinguish it. So far as ammunition and magazines are concerned one may say that their surroundings on board literally bristle with apparatus for extinguishing fire and avoiding explosions. The magazines are below water line, situated in the least likely place for a conflagration; the walls and doors are specially constructed, not only to keep out shot and shell, but to avoid heating the ammunition even. The lights of a magazine are electric and no naked light is ever allowed. Even the men use special clothing and shoes when entering magazines and are searched to prevent their even carrying a lucifer match with them. Above all—in the unlikely event of fire—the magazines can be flooded in, speaking comparatively, a few seconds. Even supposing fire to have broken out on board the Mikasa close to the magazines danger of explosion could have been averted in a second by flooding at once. When one remembers that this ship has been under a perfect rain of fire in many actions without becoming ignited, it seems impossible to believe that lying at anchor in Sasebo, she could suddenly catch fire accidentally, lose hundreds of men, blow up and disappear. Of course, had she been in dockyard hands all explosives, projectiles and coal would have been out of her. As it is, it is extraordinary that no mention is made of damage to other shipping through the explosion, which must have been terrific, or by the falling amongst houses and vessels of tons of first class projectiles of the deadliest nature.

Amongst naval men the first impression was that the Mikasa, like other ships of the Japanese navy not accounted for for some time, was really completely destroyed at the Tsushima Battle and her loss concealed until now. This theory, however, is untenable, owing to the repetition of the telegram that the vessel was lost—and in full view of all—at Sasebo. Besides the reasons already given against the theory of an ordinary accidental fire is the fact that a battleship being divided up into numerous water and airtight compartments, whose doors can be instantly closed, any outbreak of fire—like inrush of water—can be isolated immediately, localised and coped with without much serious difficulty. The presence of some 700 men on board would further facilitate the working of all the fire apparatus in every part of the ship.

HEAT PLUS ALCOHOL.

The report of the Shanghai M.O.H. for August opened with the following significant comment:—The Public Health during August has been exceptionally good despite the great heat; the only infectious disease notified among the resident foreign community being three cases of typhoid fever. The great heat resulted in five deaths among foreigners; the cause of such deaths being usually heat plus alcohol.

V.R.C. AQUATIC SPORTS.

OPENING DAY.

On the 21st September the annual Aquatic Sports of the Victoria Recreation Club opened at the Club's enclosure, Kowloon. The typhoon having passed, the weather was all that could be desired, and the various events were kept strictly up to time. The handicapping could not have been better, and when they saw the close finishes of most of the events, Messrs. T. Meek and J. H. R. Hance, the handicappers, must have been well pleased with their foresight. Mr. J. Witchell proved his right to claim the half-mile swimming championship of the Colony, beating Alves by about ten lengths and covering the distance in 14 min. 50.4/5 secs. Trumpeter Grant won the two lengths race open to the Army, Navy and Police, covering the distance in 50 seconds. In the "longest stay under water" competition, D. E. Carvalho was the winner, remaining below for the remarkable time of 2 min. 26.3/5 secs., while the honour of winning the Veteran's race fell to Mr. H. W. Kennett.

Results of events are as follows:—

Half mile championship of the Colony, open to all comers.

J. Witchell 1

N. H. Alves 2

Other starters were, J. M. Pereira, Gr. Brotherton and A. V. Barros.

The swimmers kept level for the first length, but in the second Witchell drew ahead of the others by about a length. Pereira gave up at the conclusion of this length, and on going up for the second time, when near the brickworks, Witchell increased his lead to ten lengths and maintained it till the finish. Time, 14 min. 50.4/5 secs.

Two lengths, open to Army, Navy and Police.

Trumpeter Grant 1

Gr. Brotherton 2

Time—50 seconds.

Longest stay under water. Time calculated from the word "go" until the water is broken by any part of the body.

D. E. Carvalho, 2 min. 26.3/5 sec., 1.

E. Humphreys, 1 min. 38 sec., 2.

Other competitors were J. H. K. Hance and H. S. Holmes.

Two lengths handicap. First and second in each heat to swim in final.

First heat—F. M. Pereira, 1; J. H. K. Hance, 2. Time, 52.3/5 secs.—Second heat—H. A. Lammert, 1; A. H. Carroll, 2. Time, 46 secs.—Third heat—J. A. S. Alves, 1, H. S. Holmes, 2. Time, 49.1/5 secs. The final of this race will take place on Saturday.

Veterans' race. Two lengths handicap, open to competitors over 30 years of age.

H. W. Kennett 1.

M. A. Razack 2.

F. W. White 3.

Time 54.1/5 seconds.

Team race.—There were three entries for this, K. C. Witchell's team being the winners, with J. Witchell's team second. R. C. Witchell's team comprised H. A. Lammert, E. Humphreys, J. H. R. Hance, C. M. Alves, R. Henderson, M. A. Figueiredo and M. A. Razack, while H. C. Sayer, P. M. Ramados, J. M. Pereira, H. S. Holmes, J. W. Bains, M. A. Souza and J. Ellis composed J. Witchell's team.

THE "LIENSHING" IN COLLISION.

News has been received in Shanghai from the north of a collision which occurred in the Peiho river, above Tangku on September 7th between the I. C. S. *Lienshing* and the Chinese steamer *Tcho No. 2*, the property of Messrs. Ching Kee and Co. The *Tcho*, a small steamer of 350 tons, and about thirty years old, was bound for Tientsin and Newchwang. It appears that on the evening of the 7th instant the *Lienshing* was crossing the Taku Bar on her voyage from Tientsin to Chefoo, and at the same time the Chinese str. *Tcho No. 2* was entering the river on a voyage from Chefoo to Tientsin. The *Tcho* was proceeding at a high speed, and as the vessels approached each other it soon became evident that a collision would be inevitable. In order to ease the collision as much as possible, Capt. Wright of the *Lienshing* altered his course

and ran his ship ashore, but it was too late, and the *Tiho* struck the *Lienshing* on the starboard side close to the bow, starting and buckling a number of the latter vessel's plates and bending her stem badly. A few minutes after the impact, it was seen that the *Teho* was in a sinking condition and settling down quickly. The *Lienshing* immediately lowered boats, and a tow-boat also rendered assistance, with the result that all the passengers and crew of the *Teho* were rescued, not a single life being lost. A few minutes later the *Teho* sank. Early next morning the *Lienshing* was refloated and after a few temporary repairs left for Chefoo and Weihaiwei. She left Weihaiwei on the 10th instant and arrived here early yesterday morning. After discharging cargo at the Hongkew Wharf, she went into the Old Dock for repairs.

TYPHOON EXPERIENCES.

22nd September.

THE WIND IN TOWN.

The sudden squalls of wind which prevailed on Wednesday increased in strength towards evening, and during one of these puffs, which occurred about 10 a.m., a large portion of the ornamental cornices surrounding the balcony of the Hongkong Hotel was carried away from the Des Vœux Road side. In its fall it smashed one of the hanging arc lamps, and fortunately, nobody was beneath at the time. No further damage was done, either there or elsewhere, so far as can be ascertained.

THE FRENCH MAIL.

The French s.s. *Caledonien*, which was expected here late on Tuesday night did not arrive till 6.30 yesterday morning, her delay being attributable to the presence of the typhoon. To a *Daily Press* representative the commandant related the experiences of the vessel since leaving Saigon on Sunday, the 17th instant, at 8 a.m. There was then a light wind coming from the east, but next day it veered to the north, and the following day, the 19th, it increased in force, rain falling in torrents, and the sea becoming very turbulent. The barometer, which was at 755 in the afternoon, started falling, dropping about half a millimetre per hour, an indication that the typhoon was not far off. Preparations were made to encounter its force, awnings were taken down, doors were protected by planks, etc. Apparently the typhoon was coming from the island of Luzon, and the *Caledonien* was then about 180 degrees to the south and 30 degrees west of Hongkong. From 10 o'clock at night till 3 o'clock in the morning of the 20th the tempest was at its height. The waves, lashed by a strong easterly wind, dashed over the ship, and the captain estimated that on Wednesday morning the centre of the typhoon had changed, turning to the south and going further away from them. During this time the *Caledonien* made little progress. She was headed to the waves, and in the 24 hours from Tuesday mid-day till Wednesday steamed only 76 miles. The barometer, which had remained stationary for about two hours, started to go up, rising slowly as the typhoon got further away, the captain's opinion being that the typhoon had passed about 80 miles from them. After the cyclone, the weather remained bad, but about midnight on Wednesday they lay outside Lamma Island, waiting for daylight. The ship suffered no damage.

THE "CHINGTU."

The Australian steamer *Chingtu* passed almost through the centre of the typhoon. Leaving Manila last Saturday evening in a freshening westerly breeze, a change was apparent on Sunday, when there were occasional squalls and the sea became confused. The barometer continued falling all through Monday, the lowest record being read on Tuesday afternoon when the figures were 29.19. By this time the weather had become boisterous, the squalls were more frequent, increasing in force till in the evening, when it became a hurricane. On Tuesday morning it was found necessary to put the vessel's head to the storm, the wind being then north, half east. It gradually veered to the north-east in the afternoon, and finally to E.S.E., when it became moderate. That the *Chingtu* was in the centre of the typhoon was indicated by the birds and flies which were found surrounding it. The ship

rode through it splendidly, getting nothing more than a few sprays on board. The gale was responsible for her being 36 hours late.

THE HOMEWARD MAIL.

Owing to the typhoon, the homeward French mail did not leave until one o'clock yesterday—forty-eight hours after her advertised time.

The English mail from Home was overdue six hours on arrival yesterday, which delay was caused by stress of weather. After leaving Singapore she sighted the typhoon, but was fortunately able to steam out of the direction of its approach before it reached her.

HONGKONG'S "BILL OF HEALTH."

SHANGHAI NOT YET SATISFIED.

The following telegram from the Colonial Secretary, Hongkong, was sent to H.B.M. Consul-General, at Shanghai, dated 12th September:—Clean bills of health resumed, dated 19th September, 1905. Can you not have Hongkong released from quarantine?

The reply from H.B.M. Consul-General at Shanghai reads:—Sorry cannot raise quarantine. Port Health Officer's report unfavourable to abolition. Consular body unanimously for quarantine.

BURMA AND CHEFOO AGREE.

The quarantine restrictions against Hongkong vessels arriving at Chefoo and at Burma ports have been removed.

Saigon also raised the quarantine, the official telegram to say so being dated yesterday. We have to thank Messrs. Lamke & Rogge for a confirmatory message, sent by Messrs. Wm. G. Hale & Co.

A PORTUGUESE WRECK ON NAN-TCHEOU.

From a private source we have been able to glean a few belated details concerning the stranding of the steamer *Hoi Ching*, a small steamer running between Hongkong, Macao and Kwanchauwan, during the typhoon of the 30th and 31st ultimo. The *Hoi Ching* flew the Portuguese flag and was under the command of Captain Chagas, late of the Harbour Office of this Colony. When the accident happened she was near the Island of Nan Tcheou, and was caught by the full force of the typhoon which broke her shaft. This accident rendered the steamer helpless and she was tossed about by the heavy waves and would have foundered with all hands had she not been navigated in a seamanlike manner. Captain Chagas, with a good deal of judgment, managed in good time to beach her on one of the shores of the Island. The captain, his crew and passengers suffered immensely, and some of the crew and passengers cried like children with fear while the storm was at its height. Two were drowned. The *Hoi Ching* is still ashore in the same place and Captain Chagas is also there, as he is unable to leave his vessel, suffering privations through want of proper food. He is subsisting on black rice, treacle and sweet potatoes.

We understand that part of the crew including the engineer have arrived here to obtain assistance for refloating and repairing the vessel.

WILLIAM POWELL, LIMITED.

The Directors' report for the year ending 30th June says the Profit and Loss Account, including the sum of \$583.28 brought forward from last Account, has a credit balance of \$2,624.00 from which has to be deducted the interim dividend of 5 per cent paid on 10th April last, and Directors' and Auditor's Fees, leaving \$19,324.09. This it is proposed to appropriate as follows:—To pay a final dividend of 7 per cent, \$8,400.00; To write off stock \$4,600.00; To write off fixtures and fittings \$1,462.35; To provide for bad and doubtful debts \$784.70; To add to equalization of dividend account, \$1,500.00; Bonus to manager and staff, \$190.00; To carry forward to next account, \$676.95.

A CHINESE AWAKENING.

[From the *Philadelphia Ledger*.]

There are signs of an interesting awakening in one of the most remote and conservative quarters of the Far East, and of a movement which will have a world-wide influence in the peaceful channels of trade. Japan's spectacular "awakening," which Russia has only come to appreciate to the full within the last year, and which has inspired some of the Czar's European neighbours and sympathizers to conjure up a "yellow peril," has been chiefly along political lines. In this direction China has shown little disposition to move, and there are profound students of the Chinese character and history who are convinced that there is no likelihood of a national rebirth analogous to that which has made Japan the marvel of the modern world. China has shown many signs, however, of a keen recognition of the importance of her growing commerce, and in many ways has seconded the efforts of her merchants, who, whether of their own motion or under foreign stimulus, are by no means lacking in enterprise; so that if the future has for the world a "yellow peril indeed," it is far more likely to be commercial and industrial than military.

All this may be remote, but China is learning the ways of the western world, and the present condition of the tea trade may serve as an example of what is going on. Next to silk, tea is, of course, China's chief product, and ranks next in the trade of her foreign exports; but the Chinese tea trade is not in the most promising state. Indian planters have been using most un-Asiatic methods, such as advertising on a magnificent scale, and the payment of bounties, etc., and hence have made serious inroads in the Chinese export trade, almost monopolizing the black tea market and seriously threatening China's supremacy in her strongest field, that of the finer grades of green tea. The Chinese tea guilds have begun to see the necessity for action not only in the way of advertising, and in modern methods of marketing the crop, but in the product itself and in economies in transportation and management. China only needs awakening to the peril of Indian competition to protect herself, for there is expert evidence to the effect that China can produce a far better tea than the Indian article at the same or less expense.

NEW SHANGHAI COMPANY.

The *N.C. Daily News* of Sept. 13, says:—The prospectus was handed us yesterday of a new and promising industrial enterprise in Shanghai, the "Vulcan Ironworks," Ltd., with a capital of Tls. 500,000, in 1,000 shares of Tls. 500 each, of which one-half, all that it is proposed to issue at present, has been fully subscribed. The new company will take over the engineering and shipbuilding business of "W. M. Law," now carried on in Shanghai, and will erect new works on a site of 37 mow of land at Yangtszepoo, with a frontage of 400 feet on the river, that has been secured on very favourable terms. The new machinery will be of the highest class, electrically driven, and Mr. W. M. Law, one of the vendors, has formally agreed to act as manager of the company for five years. The vendors receive 80 fully paid-up shares in the company, and guarantee that the company will earn 10 per cent on the whole capital during the first year.

In its issue of 7th September the *Nagasaki Press* says:—The Mitsu Bishi Dockyard and Engine Works, Nagasaki, are now working at high pressure, there being no less than fourteen steamers undergoing repairs in addition to much new construction.

Mr. L. E. Davis, manager for Messrs. Arthur & Bond at Kobe, whom we reported to be charged with embezzlement, has been sentenced to a month's imprisonment, but the execution of the sentence is deferred for two years. This is the Japanese way of getting rid of an unpleasant responsibility; the accused has ample opportunity to settle his affairs and leave the country.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

HANKOW, 18th September.—Business reported since the 6th inst., is as under:—

	1905.	1904.
Settlements	1-Chests. nil.	1-Chests. nil.
S'ments to S'hai (Nat. a/c)	nil.	4,914

The following are statistics at date compared with the corresponding circular of last season, viz., 14th September, 1904:—

	1905.	1904.
HANKOW TEA.	1-Chests.	1-Chests.
Settlements	435,191	579,351
S'ments to S'hai (Nat. a/c)	11,323	13,739
Stock	42,762	14,834

Arrivals ... 499,276 607,924

	1905.	1904.
KIUKIANG TEA.	1-Chests.	1-Chests.
Settlements	177,560	195,402
S'ments to S'hai (Nat. a/c)	3,401	15,059
Stock	6,095	3,114

Arrivals ... 187,659 213,575

SILK.

CANTON, 9th September, 1905.—5th Crop.—So far the prospects as to the quantity of this crop are promising, but the quality is rather doubtful. Long-reels.—The sudden fluctuations in Exchange and, to a certain extent, the repeated interruptions of telegraphic communications have been a hindrance to a large business; nevertheless a good many transactions have been booked during the earlier part of the fortnight; but at the close the tendency is weaker, some Merchants being anxious to realise. From sales made we quote: Fris. Wing Wo Lun 9/11, Wing Kiung Lun 9/11, Yee Wo Loong 9/11 at \$970; Luen Fat Cheong 10/12 at \$945; Yuk Wo Fing 10/12 at \$940; Kam Lun 10/12 at \$915; Tung Wo Fing 11/13 at \$905; Loey Wo Cheong and Hing Lun 11/13-15/14/18 at \$795; Yee Wo Fing 18/22 at \$724. Short-reels have been again in favour with American buyers, but at irregular prices according to the crop and financial situation of the holders. Waste Silk has ruled irregularly. Some settlements were made early in the fortnight at easier prices, but latterly the advancing Exchange has put buyers out of the Market. Stock of silk in Canton: 400 Bales.

Messrs. A. R. Burkill & Son's Silk Circular, dated Shanghai, 7th September, 1905, states:—The Home Markets are firm. Gold Kiling is quoted in London at 12/3 and in Lyons at Fcs. 84.25. Raw Silk.—Demand for Teatles has been fair, but Holders are unwilling to go on except on a higher basis than buyers can pay, thus restricting business in this class of silk. Yellow Silks.—Have again been in good demand, and prices paid show an upward tendency. Hand Filatures.—A few settlements of low grade New Style Filatures are reported. Other descriptions are not much in demand. Steam Filatures.—The news that Peace had been settled caused a smart drop in exchange, encouraging buyers to take about 1,000 bales; the greater portion going to America. Waste Silk.—A considerable business has been done.—Piculs 1,000 Curles 1 have been sold at Tls. 75/75½, Piculs 500 Honan II at Tls. 27/27½. There are buyers of Hankow Frisonets 60-3-10 at Tls. 25½, holders asking Tls. 27. Kading Frisonets 1 have been sold to extent of Piculs 100 at Tls. 29.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 22nd September.—The prices are advancing, there having been few arrivals.

Shekloong, No. 1, White	\$8.60 to \$8.70 pels.
Do. " 2, White	7.70 to 7.80 "
Do. " 1, Brown	6.80 to 6.90 "
Do. " 2, Brown	6.50 to 6.60 "
Swatow, No. 1, White	8.40 to 8.50 "
Do. " 2, White	7.70 to 7.80 "
Do. " 1, Brown	6.80 to 6.90 "
Do. " 2, Brown	6.50 to 6.60 "
Foochow Sugar Candy	12.50 to 12.60 "
Shekloong	11.00 to 11.30 "

RICE.

HONGKONG, 22nd Sept.—The prices are going upward, holders being firm.

Saigon, Ordinary	\$2.80 to \$2.85
" Round, good quality	3.80 to 3.85
" Long	3.90 to 4.00
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2	3.20 to 3.25
" Garden, " No. 1	3.67 to 3.68
" White	4.00 to 4.10
" Fine Cargo	4.25 to 4.30

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 21st September.

Quotations are:—	Allow'ce net to 1 catty.
Malwa New	\$1100 to — per picul.
Malwa Old	\$1190 to — do.
Malwa Older	\$1240 to — do.
Malwa V. Old	\$1300 to — do.
Persian fine quality	\$1050 to — do.
Persian extra fine	\$1140 to — do.
Patna New	\$1000 to — per chest.
Patna Old	\$1037½ to — do.
Benares New	\$980 to — do.
Benares Old	\$1007½ to — do.

COAL.

Messrs. Hughes and Hough, in their Coal Report of Sept. 22nd, state that 9 steamers are expected at Hongkong with a total of 32,700 tons of Japan coal, and 4,000 tons of Indian coal. Since Sept. 9th, 5 steamers have arrived with a total of 27,550 tons of coal. The market generally rules very quiet. Quotations:—

Cardiff	\$15.00 \$16.00 ex-ship, nominal
Australian	\$11.00 \$11.50 ex-ship, nominal
Yubari Lump	\$12.00 nominal.
Miki Lump	\$1.10 nominal.
Moji Lump	\$1.00 to \$11.00 ex-ship, steady.
Akaiko Lump	\$1.00 to \$10.50 steady.

COTTON.

HONGKONG, 22nd Sept.—Small business at a decline of \$1. Stock about 3,000 bales.

Bombay	\$20.00 to 22.00 per picul.
Bengal (New), Rangoon	21.00 to 24.00 "
and Dacca	" "
Shanghai and Japanese	27.00 to 28.00 "
Tungchow and Ningpo	27.00 to 28.00 "
Reported sales	100 bales.

YARN.

Mr. Eluljee, in his Report, dated Hongkong 22nd September, says:—The yarn market has steadily declined since last Report, and each successive sale has been at lower prices. During the early days of the interval some fairly large contracts were booked at prices ranging from \$1 to \$2 per bale under previous values, which has caused considerable anxiety to holders of old stocks, and rendered our quotations more or less nominal. Stocks (43,000 bales) are by no means excessive, but, taking into consideration the arrivals now coming forward against the off-take from the market, and the impatience of importers to realize, we are afraid that the present level of rates cannot be long maintained. The tendency of buyers is to await a lower range of prices, and the market at the close has again lapsed into a state of extreme quietude. The Bombay market is reported steady. Most of the mills having sold heavily as far forward as the beginning of next year, are now operating for further ahead, and we hear that contracts to the extent of 80,000 bales have been entered into for the China market, June-July delivery.

Local Manufacture:—The demand for locally spun thread is slack, but a fresh contract of 400 bales No. 10s, at \$111 is reported at close.

Japanese Yarn:—There is no movement in these spinnings whatever, and until prices in Japan considerably recede, we do not expect to see anything done.

Raw Cotton:—Cotton is very weak, and with lower offers from the country prices have a downward tendency and no new business is practicable. There is nothing doing in China Cotton. Estimated stock 3,500 bales Bengal and 100 China kinds. Quotations are Indian \$22 to \$25, and China \$24 to \$26.

Exchange closes to-day at Rs. 144½ for T/T and Rs. 145 for Post, on Shanghai 71½ and on Yokohama 95.

The undernoted business in imported and local spinnings is reported from Shanghai during the fortnight ended the 8th instant, viz:—

Indian:—Have been in better request and sales aggregate 7,189 bales, prices showing on appreciation of 1 to 2 Taels and market closing strong. Estimated unsold stock 66,000 bales.

Japanese:—Have recovered from the late decline, settlements amounting to 2,000 bales on the basis of Tls. 94 to 101½ for No. 16s, and Tls. 102½ to 108 for No. 20s.

Local:—Market firm, sales amounting to 5,000 bales on the basis of Tls. 90 for No. 14s and Tls. 91½ for No. 20s, delivery this year.

PIECE GOODS.

Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co.'s Report on the Shanghai Piece Goods Trade, dated Shanghai, 14th September, 1905, states:—Since our last Report there has been very little direct business, but no one need be surprised at this, as nearly every one connected with the Import trade has been fully occupied in arranging for the damage done by the recent typhoon. The damaged cargoes are being realized at auction, but at this early date it is useless even to estimate the damage done. Owing to the large quantities being sold and still to be disposed of in this manner, all buyers, who can do so, prefer to leave lots at auction to meet their requirements. From present appearances it will be some time before all the damaged Cargo will be worked off, and local demand in consequence will be only nominal. In the meantime the market can be described as steady, and there are symptoms of a revival in demand from the Northern markets. The recent floods have caused an unexpected and irritating disruption of the trade in the shape of a stoppage of the Chinese Shipping Companies in forwarding goods to their various destinations. It appears that formerly it was customary, when shipping goods, that all responsibility, unless defined at the time of shipment, was taken entirely by the shipper. Now, however, the shipper has asked for a guarantee against all damage. This appears very unfair from a merchants point of view and would render them liable to all sorts of claims in shipping from Shanghai. In consequence of this clearance for the past week have been very small and are likely to continue so until some settlement of the dispute has been arrived at. The Manchester market is quoted easier, while Cotton in Liverpool is quoted quiet but steady at 5.49d. We have not heard of any news from New York. Piece Goods.—There is practically nothing doing and the small business reported is simply of a retail nature. It is said there are others in from the most important consuming markets, but the dealers here are not at all anxious to execute them under present circumstances.

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 22nd September.—The prices run as follows:—

COTTON YARN—	per bale
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20	\$90.00 to \$128.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24	140.00 to 160.00
" 22 to 24	160.00 to 185.00
" 28 to 32	167.50 to 175.00
" 38 to 42	180.00 to 190.00

Reported sales 6,000 bales.

COTTON PIECE GOODS—	per piece
Grey Shirtings—6 lbs.	2.20 to 2.25
7 lbs.	2.30 to 2.40
8.4 lbs.	3.00 to 4.00
9 to 10 lbs.	4.10 to 5.30
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd.	2.80 to 3.00
58 to 60 "	3.10 to 3.60
64 to 68 "	3.80 to 5.40
Fine	6.10 to 8.00
Book-folds	5.30 to 8.10
Victoria Lawns—12 yards	0.80 to 1.00
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y	2.20 to 2.30
7lbs. (32 ")	2.70 to 3.00
6lbs. (32 "), Mexs.	2.25 to 2.70
7lbs. (32 ")	2.90 to 3.20
8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.)	3.25 to 3.80
Drills, English—40 yds., 13½	5.10 to 8.00
to 14 lbs.	"

FANCY COTTONS—

Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 8 lbs.	1.80 to 3.85
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per yard	
Brocades—Dyed	0.12½ to 0.18
Chintzes—Assorted	0.09 to 0.25
Velvets—Black, 22 in.	0.22½ to 0.45
Velveteens—18 in.	0.22½ to 0.26

per dozen	
Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk 0.6)	to 1.50

WOOLLENS—		per yard
Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops	0.65	to 2.50
German	0.65	to 0.90
Habit, Mod., and Broad Cloths	1.50	to 2.50
		per piece
Long Ells—Scarlet, 7-9 lbs.	7.80	to 9.25
Assorted	7.95	to 9.40
Camlets—Assorted	18.00	to 23.00
Lastings—30 yds. 31 inches }	13.00	to 21.00
Assorted	13.00	to 21.00
Orleans—Plain, 31 in.	8.50	to 10.00
		per lb.
Blankets—5 to 12 lbs.	0.60	to 1.50
METALS—		per picul.
Iron—Nail Rod	8.95	to —
Square, Flat Round Bar (Eng.)	8.90	to —
Swedish Bar	3.95	to —
Small Round Rod	4.25	to —
Hoop 1 to 1 1/2 in.	6.20	to —
Wire, 16/25 oz.	9.50	to —
Wire Rope, Old	3.00	to —
Lead, L.B. & Co. and Holo Chop	9.10	to —
Australian	9.10	to —
Yellow Metal—Muntz 14/20 oz.	39.50	to —
Vivian's 14/20 oz.	39.50	to —
Elliot's 14/20 oz.	39.50	to —
Composition Nails	61.00	to —
Japan Copper, Slabs	38.50	to —
Tin	92.00	to —
		per box
Tin-Plates	6.50	to —
		per cwt. case
Steel 1/2 to 1	6.20	to —
		per picul
Quicksilver	12.90	to —
		per box
Window Glass	5.25	to —

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

HANKOW, Sept. 13th, 1905.—The prices quoted are for the net shipping weight excluding cost of packing for export:—

	Per picul.
Cowhides, Best Selected	Tls. 34.50
Do. Seconds	30.50
Buffalo hides, Best Selected	17.50
Goatskins, Untanned, chiefly white color ..	(nom.)
Buffalo Horns, average 3-lbs. each	7.80
White China Grass, Wuchang and/or Poochi	12.50
White China Grass, Sinshan and/or Chayu ..	11.50
Green China Grass, Szechuen	(nom.)
Jute	4.75
White Vegetable Tallow, Kinchow	9.30
White Vegetable Tallow, Pingchew and/or Macheng	8.90
White Vegetable Tallow, Mongyu	8.25
Green Vegetable Tallow, Kiyu	11.80
Animal Tallow	10.50
Gallnuts, Usual shape	17.50
Do. Plum do.	18.50
Tobacco, Tingchow	(nom.)
Do. Woukóng	()
Black Bristles	115.00
Feathers, Grey and/or White Duck ..	(nom.)
" " Wild Duck ..	()
Turmeric	3.75
Sesamum Seed	4.00
Sesamum Seed Oil	8.00
Vegetable Tallow Seed Oil	()
Wood Oil	8.30
Tea Oil	(nom.)

Per M. M. steamer *Ernest Simons*, sailed on 19th September. For Marseilles:—120 bales raw silk, 11 cases silk piece goods, 5 bales human hair, 11 cases feathers, 68 packages provisions, 21 cases wine, 15 cases ylang ylang oil, 6 cases private effects, 10 cases sundries. For Lyons:—202 bales raw silk. For St. Chamond:—20 bales raw silk. For Manchester:—350 bales waste silk.

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 22nd September.—A fair amount of charactering has been done during past fortnight, and rates in certain directions have improved. From Saigon to this, 10 cents offering for medium sized carrier; to Philippines, 28 cents last for small carriers of under 30,000 piculs; to Japan, one fixture, rate not reported; to Java, no inquiry. Java to this, a large steamer accepted 22 cents for dry sugar. From Hongkong to Hongkong, \$1.00 per ton last. South Coal port Japan. To Hongkong, \$1.35 last and offering; to Singapore, \$1.50.

The following are the settlements:—

Carl Messell—German steamer, 981 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$1.35 per ton.
Wilk—German steamer, 1,810 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$1.35 per ton.
Hazel Dollar—British steamer, 2,824 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$1.35 per ton.

Doris—Norwegian steamer, 965 tons, Moji to Swatow, 41.80 per ton.

Doris—Norwegian steamer, 965 tons, Hongkong to Hongkong, \$1.50 per ton.

Loyal—German steamer, 1,217 tons, hence to Touron Phaniang and back, \$3,000 lump sum.

Oscar II.—Norwegian steamer, 1,999 tons, three ports north coast Java to Hongkong, 22 cents per picul (dry sugar).

Laoting—British steamer, 1,078 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 25 cents per picul.

Pakhoi—British steamer, 1,27 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 27 cents per picul.

A China Navigation Co.'s steamer, Saigon to one port Philippines, 28 cents per picul.

Holstein—German steamer, 1,103 tons, Saigon to Iloilo, 26 cents per picul.

Hopsang—British steamer, 1,359 tons, Saigon to Niigata, private terms.

Pronto—Norwegian steamer, 887 tons, monthly, 3 months, \$5,250 per month.

Apenrade—German steamer, 611 tons, monthly, 3 months, private terms.

SHARE REPORT.

HONGKONG, 22nd September, 1905.—We have nothing of any importance to report and but few changes in rates. The market continues very quiet, and in the absence of forward buyers is likely to remain so.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have changed hands at \$900, but sellers at that rate rule the market at time of writing. The latest London quotation is £90. 15s. In Nationals we have no change or business to report.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions have been placed at the further improved (rates of \$7.0 and \$78.2), closing with buyers at \$785. Chin. Traders, on rumours of a hitch in the transfer of the Company, have ruled quieter, and in order to effect sales on a weak market, sellers had to drop the rate three points to \$77. At this rate a fair number of shares changed hands, and at the close shares are wanted at \$78. The hitch referred to appears to be a legal one, which in competent and skilful hands can doubtless be circumvented, and should not cause any serious uneasiness. Canton remain quiet and without business at \$335. Yangtszes and North Chinas unchanged and without business.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao continue steady at \$26 1/2 but without business. In the absence of sellers Indos have ruled weak, and sales have been effected as low as \$92; at time of closing the market is somewhat firmer at \$93. Shanghai quotes Tls. 66 1/2, but the high exchange prohibits interport business. Douglases have found further buyers at \$35, and a fair business has been put through at that rate, market closing firmer at \$35 1/2 to \$36.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have changed hands in small lots at \$230, but sellers rule the market at time of closing. Luzons continue on offer without business.

MINING.—Raubas have been done in a small way at \$4.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks remain quiet with no business to report. Kowloon Wharves have further improved to \$'03 1/2 with buyers. Farnhams, with rumours of many Japanese ships coming to Shanghai for docking purposes, have improved to Tls. 143, which is the latest quotation from Shanghai; we have nothing else to report under this heading.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands, which closed weak last week at \$126, have suddenly, on a small demand, advanced to \$128 1/2 with sellers at that and \$128. The market closes steady at \$129. Kowloon Lands are enquired for in a small way at \$40. West Points and Humphreys remain unchanged and without business, but close very steady at quotations. Hongkong Hotels have advanced a point and are now enquired for at \$147.

COTTON MILLS.—Ewos have advanced to Tls. 53 buyers, and Lan Kung Mows to Tls. 50, while Hongkongs have declined to \$14 1/2 with sellers.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Bells' Asbestos E. A. have been placed at \$7.1. China Providents at \$8.90 and \$9. Dair Farms at \$17. Hongkong Electrics (old) at \$5 1/2, new at \$9 1/2, and Watsons at \$14 1/2, all in small unimportant lots.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

QUOTATIONS.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Alhambra	\$200	\$100
Banks—		
Hongkong & Shanghai	\$125	\$900, sellers
		London, £90. 15s.
National B. of China	25	\$38, buyers
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	12s. 6d.	\$7, sales & buyers
China-Borneo Co.	\$12	\$11.75
China Light & P. Co.	\$10	\$10, sellers
China Provident	\$10	\$9, sellers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 50	Tls. 53, buyers
Hongkong	\$10	\$14 1/2, sellers
International	Tls. 75	Tls. 44
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 59, buyers
Soychees	Tls. 500	Tls. 250, buyers
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$17, sales & buy.
Docks & Wharves—		
Farnham, B. & Co.	Tls. 100	Tls. 143, buyers
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$103 1/2, buyers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$194, sellers
New Amoy Dock	\$6 1/2	\$17, sellers
S'hai & H. Wharf	Tls. 100	Tls. 187 1/2, buyers
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$28
		\$25 1/2
G. Island Cement	\$10	\$28, sellers
Hongkong & C. Gas	\$10	\$175, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$15 1/2, sales
Do. New	\$5	\$9 1/2, sales
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$215, buyers
Hongkong Hotel Co.	\$50	\$147, sales
Hongkong Ice Co.	\$25	\$237 1/2, sellers
Hongkong Rope Co.	\$50	\$152
H'kong S. Waterboat	\$10	\$14, sellers
Insurance—		
Canton	\$50	\$385
China Fire	\$20	\$87, buyers
China Traders	\$25	\$77 1/2, buyers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$337 1/2
North China	25	Tls. 82
Union	\$100	\$785, buyers
Yangtsze	\$60	\$172 1/2
Land and Buildings—		
H'kong Land Invest.	\$100	\$129, buyers
Humphreys' Estate	\$10	\$12 1/2, sales & buy.
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$40
Shanghai Land	Tls. 50	Tls. 122
West Point Building	\$50	\$55
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fca. 250	\$490
Raubas	18/10	\$1
Philippine Co.	\$10	\$8, sellers
Refineries—		
China Sugar	\$100	\$230, sales & sel.
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$17, sellers
Steamship Companies		
China and Manila	\$25	\$20, sellers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$35 1/2, buyers
H., Canton & M.	\$15	\$26 1/2, buyers
Indo-China S.N. Co.	\$210	\$93, sellers
Shell Transport Co.	21	21s.
Do. Preference	\$10	\$23. 10s.
Star Ferry	\$10	\$33, sellers
Do. New	\$5	\$25, sellers
Shanghai & H. Dyeing	\$5	\$50
South China M. Post.	\$25	\$20, sellers
Steam Laundry Co.	\$5	\$8
Do. New	\$3	\$7 1/2, buyers
Stores & Dispensaries.		
Campbell, M. & Co.	\$10	\$36
Powell & Co., Wm.	\$10	\$11 1/2, buyers
		\$10 1/2, buyers
Watkins	\$10	\$7, sellers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$14 1/2, sellers
United Asbestos	\$4	\$9, buyers
Do. Founders	\$10	\$160

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

FREIGHT.

Messrs. Wheelock & Co.'s Freight Market Report, dated Shanghai 14th September, 1905, states:—There is no change to report in our Homeward Freight Market since last writing, and the cessation of hostilities between Japan and Russia has not made any difference as regards the quantity of cargo offering for export. Coastwise.—Here the signing of peace between Japan and Russia caused quite a flutter of excitement in our tonnage market a week or so ago; which, however, gradually subsided as it became manifest that Japan would not allow any merchant vessels to enter Siberian ports until peace had been ratified, and we are afraid that the few fixtures that were made will not turn out very profitable ventures for those concerned. At present everything is more or less again "in statu quo" pending the ratification of peace, when there is bound to be a rush of ships to the North.

EXCHANGE.

FRIDAY, 22nd September.

ON LONDON.—	
ON Telegraphic Transfer	1/11 1/2
Bank Bills, on demand	1/11 1/2
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/11 1/2
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1/11 1/2
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/11 1/2
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1/11 1/2
PARIS.—Bank Bills, on demand	244
Credits 4 months' sight	248
GERMANY.—On demand	198 1/2
ON NEW YORK.—Bank Bills, on demand	47 1/2
Credits, 60 days' sight	47 1/2
ON BOMBAY.—Telegraphic Transfer	144 1/2
Bank, on demand	145
ON CALCUTTA.—Telegraphic Transfer	144 1/2
Bank, on demand	145
ON SHANGHAI.—Bank, at sight	71 1/2
Private, 30 days' sight	72 1/2
ON YOKOHAMA.—On demand	95
ON MANILA.—On demand	95
ON SINGAPORE.—On demand	9 p.m.
ON BATAVIA.—On demand	116 1/2
ON HAIPHONG.—On demand	1 p.m.
ON SAIGON.—On demand	Par.
ON BANGKOK.—On demand	61 1/2
SEVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	\$10 25
GOLD LEAF, 110 fine, per tael	\$33.90
BAR SILVER, per oz.	28 1/2

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

September—ARRIVALS.

- 17, Lucia Vittoria, Ital. str., from K'chauwan.
- 17, Shantung, British str., from Sourabaya.
- 17, Silesia, Austrian str., from Trieste.
- 17, Tjipanas, Dutch str., from Macassar.
- 18, Achilles, British str., from Shanghai.
- 18, Anghin, British str., from Bangkok.
- 18, Dagny, Norwegian str., from Chefoo.
- 18, Ernest Simons, Fr. str., from Shanghai.
- 18, Esang, British str., from Tientsin.
- 18, Flintshire, British str., from London.
- 18, Hongwan I, British str., from Straits.
- 18, Iphigenia, British cruiser, from Amoy.
- 18, J. Di. derichsen, Ger. str., from Hoihow.
- 18, Joongsang, British str., from Manila.
- 18, Minn sota, Amr. str., from Seat le.
- 18, Zafiro, British str., from Manila.
- 19, Aro dia, British str., from Moji.
- 19, Dardanus, British str., from Liverpool.
- 19, Hamun, British str., from Coast Ports.
- 19, Katanga, British str., from Kuchinotzu.
- 19, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Canton.
- 19, Willehad, German str., from Yokohama.
- 19, Yochow, British str., from Shanghai.
- 20, Chingtu, British str., from Sydney.
- 20, Chiynen, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
- 20, Telemaachus, British str., from Saigon.
- 21, Caledonien, French str., from Marseilles.
- 21, Chusan, British str., from Bombay.
- 21, Dagny, Norwegian str., from Canton.
- 21, Gu'chen, French cruiser, from Along Bay.
- 21, Hangsang, British str., from Canton.
- 21, Namsang, British str., from Canton.
- 21, Simla, British str., from Shanghai.
- 21, Yochow, British str., from Canton.

September—DEPARTURES.

- 18, Andalusia, German str., for Shanghai.
- 18, Hangsang, British str., for Canton.
- 18, Strathnevia, British str., for Java.
- 18, Toonan, Chinese str., for Canton.
- 18, Wray Castle, British str., for Shanghai.
- 19, Dagny, Norwegian str., for Canton.
- 19, Emma Lynken, Ger. str., for Sourabaya.
- 19, Ernest Simons, French str., for Europe.
- 19, Haitan, British str., for Coast Ports.
- 19, Hongkong, French str., for Hoihow.
- 19, Hopang, British str., for Saigon.
- 19, Merionethshire, British str., for Christmas Island.
- 19, Pekin, British str., for Bombay.
- 19, Phra Nang, German str., for Bangkok.
- 19, Shantung, British str., for Sourabaya.
- 19, Tean, British str., for Manila.
- 20, C. Apcar, British str., for Calcutta.
- 20, Choysang, British str., for Shanghai.
- 20, Empress of Japan, British str., for Vancouver.
- 20, Flintshire, British str., for Nagasaki.
- 21, Achilles, British str., for London.
- 21, Shaohsing, British str., for Shanghai.
- 21, Sierra Blanca, British str., for Manila.
- 21, Silesia, Austrian str., for Shanghai.
- 21, Willehad, Ger. str., for Ger. New Guinea.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Ernest Simons*, for Hongkong from Yokohama, Mr. Roy H. Smith, Miss Johnston, Mr. and Mrs. Breggs and 2 children, Messrs. Mercado, Hildago and S. de L. on; from Shanghai, Messrs. Kea, Andriot, Vaughan, Mr. and Mrs. T. Clayson, Mrs. Harman and infant, Mrs. Marcoovis, Messrs. R. Ehrlich, Roberts, A. Sanwes, Madae, Marikas, Van Beckum, Mercander and Talkerson; for Saigon from Shanghai, Mrs. Moine, Mr. Fortin, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel and 2 daughters; for Singapore from Shanghai, Mrs. Vallenre, Mr. C. Lopez, Mr. and Mrs. Jauravel and 3 children, and Mr. Morando; from Kobe, Mr. Kinjo Motoyama; from Yokohama, Messrs. T. Bonnet and S. Mishinobi; for Colombo from Yokohama, Messrs. F. C. Purkis and K. B. Daryanani; from Kobe, Messrs. M. A. Pathan and Sali Mohamed; from Shanghai, Messrs. Spinaforte and Shren; for Port Said from Shanghai, Messrs. M. Salvatore, Manoini, Kronkoff, Mrs. Androntzaki and child, Mrs. Cambourakis, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob, Messrs. Jame and Cambourakis; for Marseilles from Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. Portes, Mr. and Miss Portes, and Mr. D. J. Obersteg; from Kobe, Messrs. Garcia, Anderson, Cory, Ler, Bornudos, Martinez, Rogodeling, Euradisi, Cruz, Salas, Pedro, Pettico, A. Anderson, Parissottor and Vasquez; from Shanghai, Mr. Calanding, Miss Sontaz, Messrs. Pack, Pichon, A. Bordoy, Mr. and Mrs. Berner, Messrs. Dir'cq, Contassote, Heurclato, Batini, Rialand, Rervalla and S. W. Leach.

Per *Willehad*, from Yokohama, Dr. T. A. Hynes.

Per *Minnesota*, from Seattle, Mrs. and Miss Bowes, Mr. B. F. Whipple, Miss F. Montgomery, Miss Helen I. Childs, Mrs. A. Abt, Mrs. J. Hamilton Lewis, Miss D. Fohay, Judge and Mrs. W. S. Giffin, Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Wilder, Master Wilder, Miss J. McCullom, Mrs. W. B. Walker and infant, Mrs. W. E. Keyes, Miss R. Shaffer, Messrs. S. McClinton, J. Anderson, Mrs. A. C. Whipple, Miss O. Liddell, Miss E. L. Gray, Mr. O. G. Elder, Miss F. Grayum, Miss M. O'Leary, Mr. C. A. Williams, Miss M. Gilman, Messrs. Ch. Storms, W. I. Hutchinson, J. B. Boutelle, D. G. May, Mr. and Mrs. Schel, and child, Mrs. Evans and child, Messrs. H. E. Kurma, A. Bastien, C. G. Mackie, Mrs. J. B. Milton, Miss Milton, Messrs. Eda Silvia, W. B. Walker, A. G. McPherson, and Dr. J. H. Fitzbutler; from Yokohama, Capt. Howard, Capt. O. B. Meyer, Mrs. M. A. Widden and 2 children, Lieut. Irwin, Mrs. N. E. Irwin and child, Mrs. and Miss Wakefield; from Kobe, Messrs. T. F. Hough, A. F. Armstrong, Major D. S. Stanley, and Mr. J. W. Dorris.

Per *Caledonien*, for Hongkong from Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. Pauque and 2 children, Mr. Heaulue, Mr. and Mrs. Polo Dore; from Singapore, Mr. Yamaguchi; from Saigon, Mr. Clark, Mrs. Benneche, Messrs. Lichtiong and Lacloche; for Shanghai from Marseilles, Miss Stehouroff, Miss Badoz and child, Mrs. Barbier, Messrs. Dupuy, Fert, Labbe, Meany, J. B. Antoine, Mr. and Mrs. Louillet and 3 children, Mr. Dache, Sisters Mercedes Amable, Sebastian, Powres, Nobert and Flora, Messrs. Magna, Simonet, Revs. Laroche, Chazallet, Bermond, Dalles, Ossin, Carou, Renault, Cadecet, Bernet, Nissen, Morelmi, and Mr. Allard; from Port Said, Mr. Scoccia; from Suez, Mr. Contzoma'is; from Colombo, Sisters Thomas and Fontaine, Mr. Bengier, Mr. and Mrs. Koenig; from Singapore, Messrs. Lyall and Pemetris; from Saigon, Messrs. Merchant and Manail and child; for Kobe from Marseilles, Mr. Degay; from Singapore, Mrs. Wada, Messrs. Goni, Shim'za and Nosaka; from Saigon, Mr. Otobua; for Yokohama from Marseilles, Miss Fontaine, Mr. and Mrs. Barbillen, Mrs. Bady, and Mr. Jeanes; from Singapore, Messrs. Matsuda and Ohkura; from Saigon, Messrs. Maitre and Saba.

Per *Telemachus*, from Saigon, Messrs. Delaney and Nosabi.

Per *Chusan*, for Hongkong from London, Mrs. G. E. French; from Colombo, Mr. H. D. Belgrave; from Bombay, Mr. Connubul Murlau; from Singapore, Mr. D. D. Mackie, Ganner Geo. Salmon, Boatswain S. Mallett, Lieut. Edwin Carter, Lieut. W. S. Westbrook, Mr. E. R. Graham, Mrs. Beilby, Messrs. Gutierrez and Hellum; for Shanghai from London, Misses Pette and Wilkinon, Messrs. J. Saunders S. W. Riches, and Ezchs; from Marseilles,

Messrs. F. W. Poate and C. B. Haze; from Brindisi, Messrs. J. L. Smith and E. H. Collyshaw; for Yokohama from London, Messrs. T. Wilson and W. Moxon.

Per *Simla*, from Shanghai for Hongkong, Miss V. Chalmers, Messrs. Ackert, Noyes, R. Thomas, S. Fish, A. St. John, J. Mead, and Bishop Menicotti; for London, Mr. and Mrs. Vale and 2 children, Messrs. Griffiths, J. A. Knox, P. Agnew and B. Montgomery; from Kobe for Singapore, Mr. Hassum; from Yokohama for Bombay, Mr. Bh'ania; for London, Mr. Vlasto.

DEPARTED.

Per *Preussen*, for Hamburg, &c., Mr. F. Adamson, Marquis and Marchioness d'Adda and child, Messrs. J. S. Ally, Akkermann, Miss Bertha Bergfeld, Messrs. W. D. O'Brien, Bikoff, Bouligin, Bogomoloff, Birakoff, Bessa, Mrs. Betin and child, Mr. Bagdonowitch, Mr. and Mrs. Budocoff and children, Messrs. Budocoff and Baronetz, Dr. M. Chikashiga, Messrs. A. J. David and Evelyn David, Mrs. Duke, Mrs. W. J. Dunlop and children, Miss Doronin, Mr. and Mrs. Flaum, Messrs. Fraser, H. Futcholly, Fronschevitch, Dr. A. Grama'zki, Mr. Grinkevitch, Mr. and Mrs. Grigoneff and child, Mrs. Hivolen, Mrs. Ismirowa, Mr. and Mrs. Ivanoff, Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Jates, Messrs. Jefferys, W. Jones, Jurewitsch, Mrs. Jawgewitsch and children, Mr. and Mrs. Juschkeff, Messrs. F. Kennedy, C. F. Klingroth, Konanenko, Kalchert, Miss Karagitscheff, Messrs. Koucharluko, Konlukin, Konsteraki, Knoch, Miss Karz'eff, Mr. and Mrs. Kosakewitsch, Misses Kolossoff and Kondrawitsch, Messrs. F. Little, Lobolett, Dr. A. de Magalhaes, Mr. Marais, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Maxwell, Mrs. Mercier, Messrs. M. J. Myers, John P. Misso, Meersohn, Mikoulowski, Michalschenko, Matrosoff, Mrs. Maskolin, Messrs. J. Clayton Nickels, Neumann, Edm. Neumann, S. Oba, Miss Osipoff, Mr. and Mrs. Oblanoff and child, Messrs. Pollack, Quinez Pond, Porphini, Miss Pawloff, Messrs. Petroff, Padoff, Pogawski, Plerokewitsch, Polakoff, Mr., Mrs., and Miss Ponschlaroff, Messrs. Projestwensko, E. O. Reimers, W. S. Reyburn, Mrs. v. Riegen and child, Mr. S. Kitamura, Mr. and Mrs. Robbins, Dr. D. Robertson, Capt. Searborne, Messrs. J. Seemann, Salamanoff, Mr. and Mrs. Sokoloff, Messrs. Serowinski, Sadaranowski, Sacharoff, Mr. and Mrs. Schegloff and child, Messrs. Smirnoff, Schirigeff, Mr. and Mrs. Satzuck and child, Mr. and Mrs. S. Istein and child, Messrs. Touchendler, Tschukaseff, Mr. and Mrs. Tscherneski, Mrs. Tscherkochenin and child, Messrs. Tscherpaucoff, W. H. Walsh, Wasilieff, Wesse's, Rogers Wesmore, Mr. and Mrs. Weybinetz and child, Messrs. Winogradoff, P. H. Wootton, Mr. and Mrs. Zachowitsch and child, Messrs. Zeschewitsch, Zicklar, Miss Zoonoff, and Mrs. Zudnick.

Per *Ernest Simons*, for Saigon, Mr. Ohlsen, Miss Relicca Ehrlich, Miss Clara Marcoowitch, Mr. and Mrs. Bornaud, Messrs. Hamon and Prigent; for Singapore, Messrs. W. A. Dowly, Karl Pelsterer and Richard Pelsterer; for Bombay, Mr. M. A. Cuden; for Colombo, Messrs. A. J. MacPherson, C. Robier, and E. A. Gillespie; for Marseilles, Messrs. Bartolome Velaso, J. T. Turner, Leon, Pedro Rodriguez, E. P. Point, Fourmen, Chevalier, Mrs. Dulot, Messrs. Lenof Lupi and T. Pletsig, and Mrs. Celestine Rodrigues.

Per *Empress of Japan*, for Vancouver, &c., Miss Crawford, Mr. W. H. Bond, Mr. and Mrs. R. O. Boggon and infant, Mrs. R. W. Borthwick and child, Capt. C. Pack Beresford, Mr. P. Krafft, Capt. and Mrs. Verreker, Messrs. T. Hunter, H. Rapp, H. E. and Mrs. Wan, Cho Tsay, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Cruickshank, Messrs. D. Takita, C. R. Scott, R. W. Borthwick, Mrs. Kays, Messrs. J. H. Stiven, John Atlin, Mrs. Momie Ramentes and 2 children, Messrs. Geo. Armstrong, Olsen and Johnston.

Per *Caledonien*, for Shanghai, Soeur Bourgeois, Soeur Gillet, Capt. Boucabeille, Messrs. C. H. Graham, L. Roches, Jun Bautista Gutierrez, Miss Ackermann, Mrs. Ivanoff, and Mr. J. Milkoff; for Yokohama, Mr. A. E. Reporter.

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